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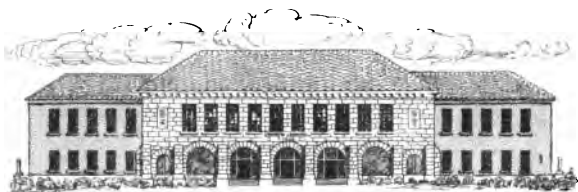
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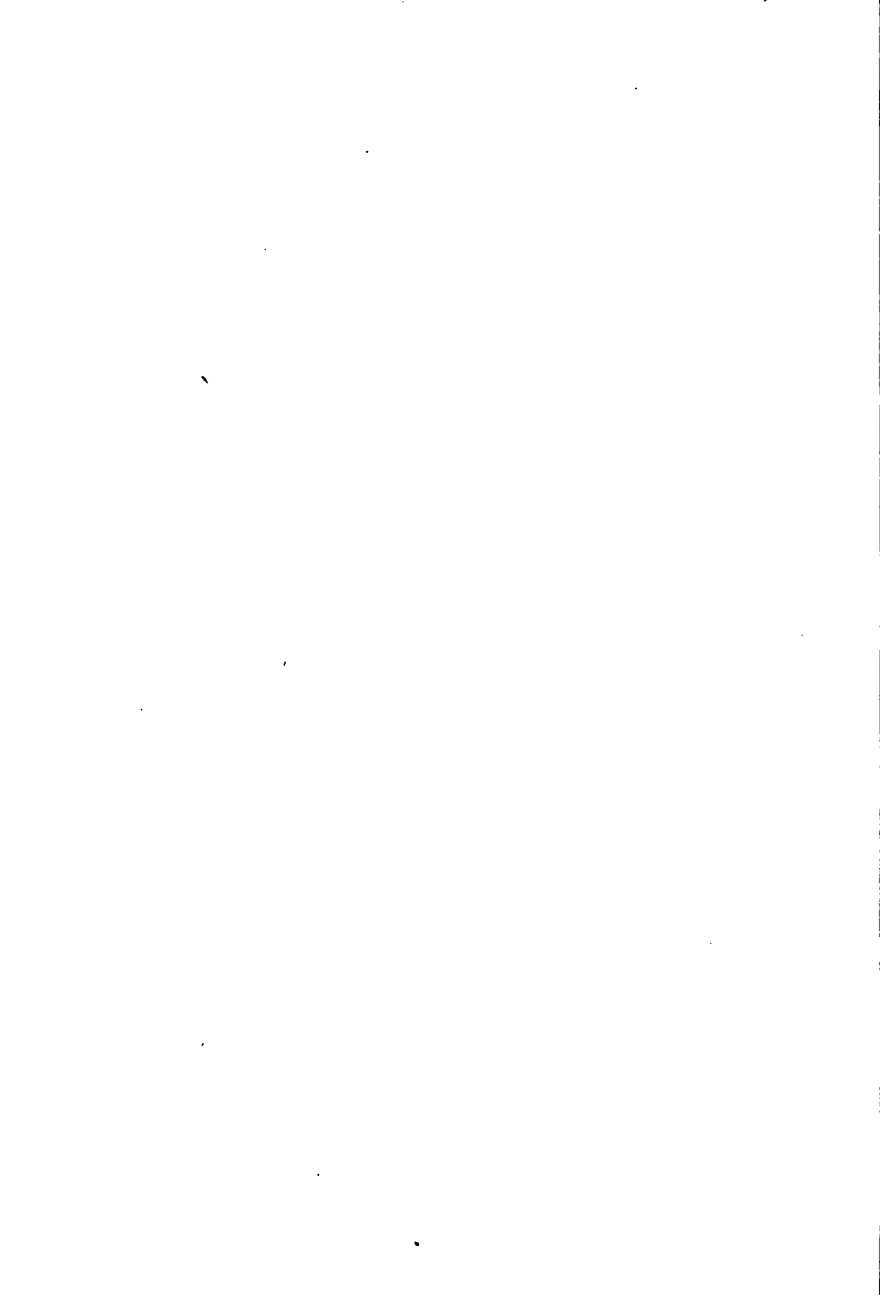
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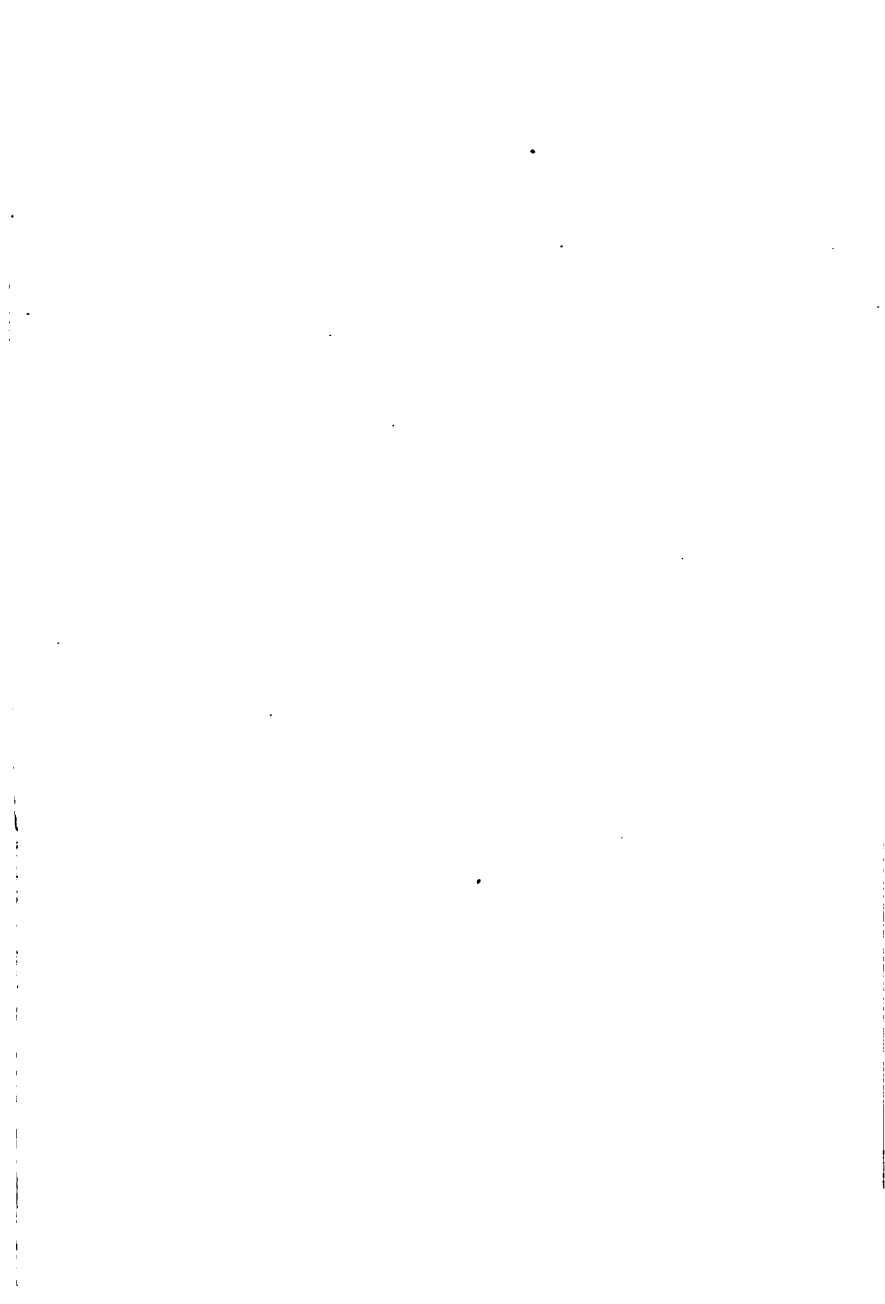


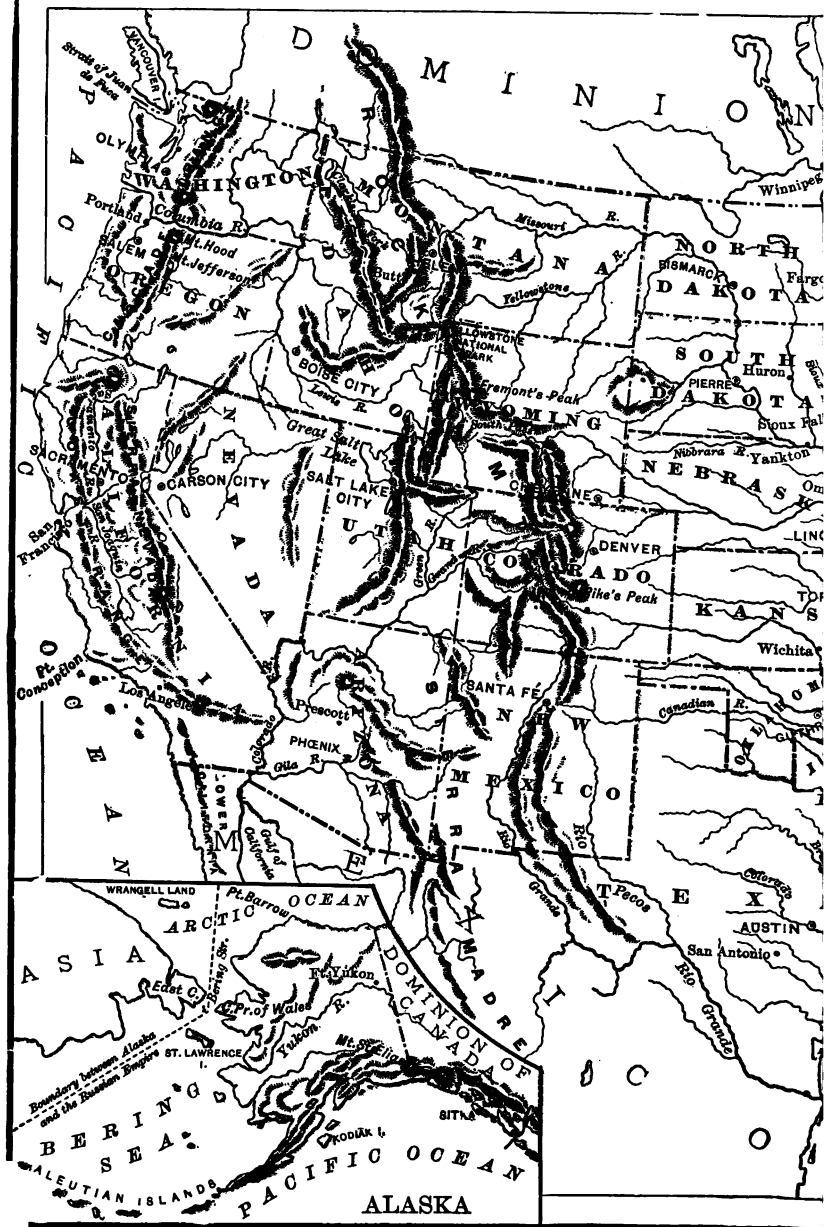
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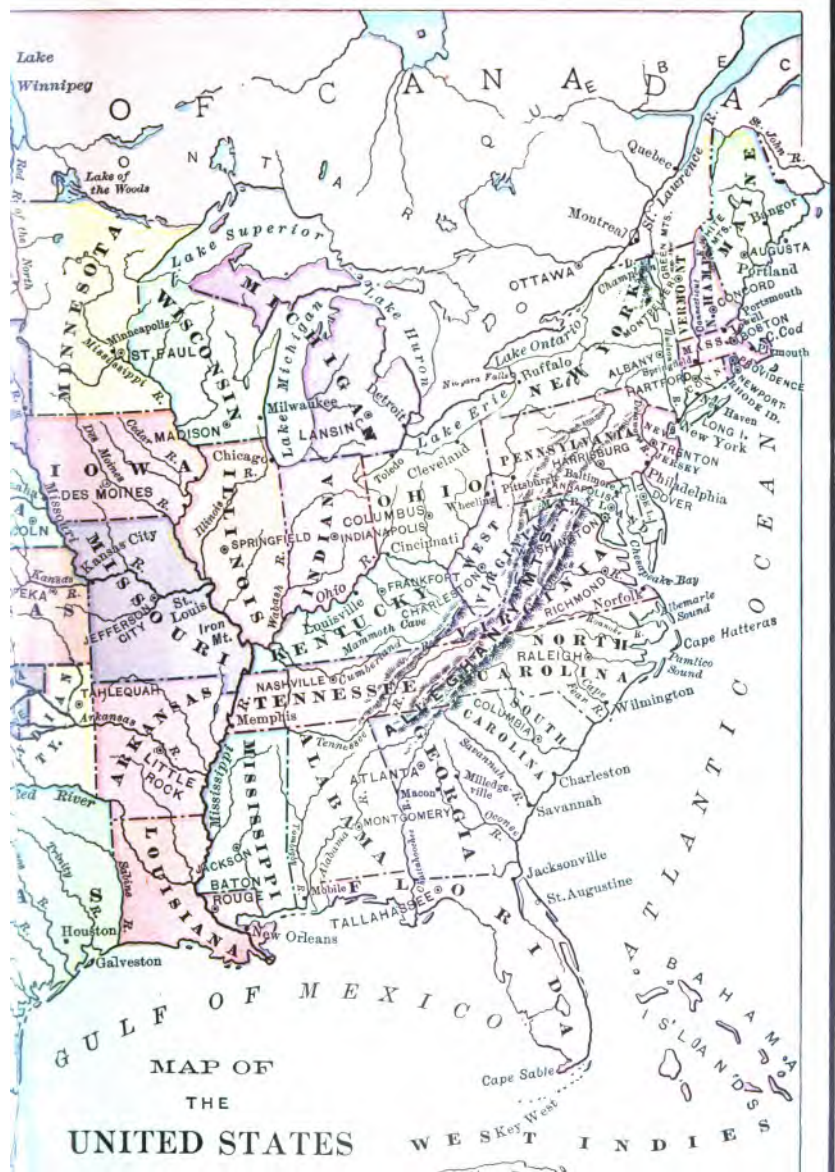
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FROM THE ORIGINAL PREFACE.

AN experience of several years in teaching has convinced me either that children begin to study geography too young, or that the books they use are not suitable for them. Though excellent text-books for advanced pupils have appeared within the last few years, I have never found a very good one for children; those intended for them differing from the others only in quantity, and not in quality.

Having a class of children from six to ten years of age who were to commence the study of geography, I gave them a course of oral lessons, loose and general it may be, but so satisfactory in results, that I have been induced to collect them, hoping that other young people may be as much interested in them as mine were. They are essentially primary or introductory lessons; and subjects which may seem to have been omitted are, perhaps, only postponed to a future time, when they will be more easily comprehended.

Actual experience has proved to me that a child of seven or eight years may acquire in several months a general knowledge of the form of the earth, of its bodies of land and water, of the effects of climate, situation, &c., upon the different nations, which can no more be forgotten than the alphabet.

I have endeavored to teach localities chiefly by associating with them whatever physical or historical interest they may have; believing the aim of such a text-book should be, not merely to give facts, but to inspire sympathy with far-off nations, and to create a desire to learn more.

M. L. H.

PUBLISHERS' NOTE.

In consequence of the author's death, the *Our World Geographies* have been allowed to stand unaltered for a number of years. A new edition has, however, been urgently demanded, and a friend of Miss Hall, familiar with her views, has now performed this work for the first book. The reviser has followed the plan and method of the author. All the distinguishing features and special merits of the original work have been retained. The text has been brought down to date in all respects, and at some points, additions have been made. The work is now presented as a geographical reading-book. The maps and the map studies are designed to throw light on the text and help to fix the information that it gives. As the *Our World Geography* has preserved its vitality for twenty-five years, and even up to the present time has been making its way into new fields, the publishers feel that they can present this book with the highest confidence.

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OUR WORLD.

PART FIRST

LESSON I.

INTRODUCTORY.

DEAR CHILDREN, — Before you begin to learn the things I wish to tell you, look far away down the street or over the country, and you will see that the sky seems to come quite down to the earth. It would not be strange if some of you thought they really touched very far off. Indeed, a great many years ago, older and wiser people believed that, if they should go far enough, they would surely come to the end of the earth ; but, as nobody had ever seen any one who had been there, they could not tell exactly what the end of the world was like, though each one had his own notions about it, and very queer notions they were.

As time went by, and more and more people were born on the earth, they began to need more room and more money : so many of them travelled away farther and farther, sometimes on land, sometimes on water. Still none of them came to the end of the earth ; and, wherever they went, the sky seemed as high over head as ever.

,

Wise men began to think there was no end ; and, sure enough, it happened at last that some persons, after travelling on for a long time in the same way, found themselves just at the place from which they started, as an ant would after crawling round an apple. This, together with some other signs, showed very plainly that the earth was like a round ball, without any end.

Since then, many people have travelled about over this round world of ours, finding out many things, and telling one another what they have seen. Fairy tales are not more wonderful than the stories that have been written about blazing hills, rivers of moving ice, springs of boiling water, cities buried under the ground, and hundreds of things as strange.

The outside of this round world is called its *surface* ; and it will be hard for some of you, who perhaps have never seen more water than a river, to believe that there is more water than land on the surface of the earth,—nearly three times as much. There are great seas of water, thousands of miles wide ; and far across the waters are many lands very different from ours.

There are countries where the sunshine is very hot all the year ; where the trees are always green, and flowers always blooming ; where the children have no snow-balling nor skating, but see every day ripe, yellow oranges, and gay-colored parrots in the trees. And hotter still are some lands, where there is no grass, but only miles and miles of dry, burning sand.

Far off from these are other lands, where it is always so bitter cold that the snow and ice never melt, where there are no large trees nor cornfields nor gardens, and where the people use rough bearskins for clothes.

By travelling over the earth, the people who live in different parts have become a little acquainted with one another. There are on the earth many different kinds of people, with different ways of living: some white, some black, some brown, some tawny, some yellowish-red. Some live in houses of wood and stone, others make hovels of mud; some have only cloth tents or houses, and others build with skin and bark.

LESSON I.—Did people ever think they could get to the end of the earth? What was found out about its shape? How? What is the outside of the earth called? Are all parts of the earth alike? What have travellers learned about it?



LESSON II.

THINGS TO LEARN ABOUT THE LAND.

THE land, instead of being all in one mass, is in parts, of different sizes and shapes; and there are names for the different forms.

If a piece of land has water all around it, we call it an *island*.

But if such a piece of land is so large that it may contain several different countries, then it is called a *continent*.

The islands or continents are never regularly square nor round, but are of all sorts of shapes. The edges, instead of being even and straight, are all notched and jagged where they touch the water; and these edges of land are called *shores* or *sea-coasts*.

When the points of land reach out quite far into the water, they are called *capes*.

When a piece of land is almost surrounded by water, it is called a *peninsula*.

A broad stretch of level ground is called a *plain*. A grassy plain without trees is called a *prairie*, *llano*, *pampa*, or *steppe*.

Deserts are large plains destitute of grass, or with only a scanty growth. They are often covered for miles and miles with dry sand, rocks, or gravel, except here and there a little cluster of trees around a spring or well.

When the land in any place rises to quite a height, it is called a *hill*.

Very high hills are called *mountains*. They are not often seen standing alone, but are in long rows or ridges, called *mountain chains*.

Valleys are the low places between hills or mountains, and are often very long and wide.

LESSON II. — What is an island? A continent? What are shores or sea-coasts? Capes? What is a peninsula? A plain? A prairie? What are deserts? Hills? Mountains? Valleys?



LESSON III.

THINGS TO LEARN ABOUT THE WATER.

You know that water takes the shape of whatever holds it, whether it is a tub, a pan, or a long trough. Now those great lands which I told you are called continents have between them great basins of water, which are called *oceans*.

And under the water there is still land, sometimes very near the surface of the water, so that we can see it, looking

down as we sail in little boats, and sometimes deep down, so that a very long line can hardly reach it.

You must remember that the edges or shores are not always smooth, but notched in and out. When there is quite a large notch in the land, with the water from the ocean running up, it is a *bay*, *gulf*, or *sea*.

Around every ocean there are many such seas, bays, or gulfs; and sometimes they are almost or quite shut in by land. The water of the oceans is salt.

When two points of land are so near together as only to leave a narrow passage of water between, this passage is called a *strait*.

You all know what a pond is; and very large ponds are called *lakes*, which are smaller basins of water away from the ocean.

Most of you also know that water bubbling up out of the ground, and making a little pool, is called a *spring*. Clear, cool water runs from this little pool and forms a stream. If the land is flat, the little stream comes slowly through mud and leaves; but, if the spring is on a high hill the stream rushes along fast enough, leaping, sparkling, and foaming over the rocks.

After a while the stream meets other streams from other springs, and, joining together, they make a larger one, that still goes on, winding, turning, and taking in other streams, until it grows so wide and deep that it is called a *river*.

Small streams are called *branches*, or *rivulets*.

LESSON III.—What are oceans? Bays or gulfs? Seas? What is a strait? A lake? A spring? How are rivers made?

LESSON IV.

ISLANDS.

EVERYWHERE in the midst of the water are scattered islands of all sizes, some large enough for many towns to be built on them, others so small that they are nothing more than big rocks in the water. Some islands are flat; some are high, with hills and mountains. The strangest of all are the *coral islands*.

You have seen the bright red and the white coral, used for making beads and other pretty things. But perhaps you do not know that it is made by thousands of little animals, called *polyps*, that live far down in the water. The coral is sometimes found in beautiful branches, a foot or more long. Men dive under the water to get it, and often pieces are broken off and washed up on the shore by the waves.



CORAL.

The beautiful, fine coral is rare, and only found in small quantities; but there are other animals that make a coarser, rougher coral; and it is of this rougher kind of coral that islands are made.

These animals are at first little jelly-like sacs, floating about in the water; but, after a while, they fasten themselves to the rocks under water, and never leave them again. Then the sacs open at the top, and little star-

shaped mouths are formed. New animals come from the old ones, like buds upon a plant. One animal can also divide itself into two, while new jelly-like sacs float away to fasten themselves elsewhere : and thus, in these different ways, they increase rapidly. Millions and millions of these small creatures are living and growing day and night under the water, taking lime from it, and forming solid walls and partitions in their bodies.

These walls and partitions are left behind, while the little animals move slowly on, making all the time more of these hard walls which form the coral.

Thus the tiny creatures make the coral as they grow, budding and spreading in all directions, till, in time, they form, with their rocky walls, strange and beautiful shapes; sometimes large branches, sometimes large clusters of cells like a honey-comb; sometimes they spread out like fans, and sometimes form long, round stems.

The animals continue to add more and more coral in the deep, quiet water, until at last, coming up to the surface, they can grow no higher. Then the waves, all the time rushing and beating against the branches, break and mix them together. Floating logs, bits of wood, and sea-weeds, lodge on the points of rock, and in time decay. These are mixed with the sand made from the coral which has been ground up by the waves, and thus a little soil is made. Seeds are blown there from the land, spring up into plants, which die and make more soil, until, after a long, long time, the land spreads wider and deeper, trees grow up, and even men come and build their cities on the islands that were first made by little creatures not half so large as one's finger. But how many years this must have taken ! and how many generations of polyps !

It is the fashion of these animals to build in a circle, for reasons you will understand by and by, so that, when the island comes to the surface of the water, it is a broad ring, with a pond or lake in the middle. These rings are not always round, but often longer one way than the other, and have usually an opening somewhere, so that ships often sail into the lakes from the open sea.



AN ATOLL — WHITSUNDAY ISLAND.

Many of these coral islands, called *atolls*, are very beautiful; and, if you would know how they look, think of a wide belt of land not much above the water, covered with trees and plants of the brightest green; for it is always warm where the little coral animals live. Here and there are groves of cocoanut-trees waving their long feathery leaves high in the air, and bending their tall stems in the wind. These groves are bordered on both

sides, outward to the sea and inward to the lake, by a narrow band of shining white sand lying next to the blue water. All around outside come the great, strong waves, swelling slowly over the ocean, until they dash against the ring of rock with a roar, and burst into sparkling foam.

But, while it is rough outside, the water inside the ring is still and smooth as glass: for this reason, these inside lakes, which are called *lagoons*, are good harbors for vessels.

LESSON IV. — Where are islands found? Are they all alike? How is coral made? What happens when the coral animals bring their work to the surface of water? What is said of the coral islands? What are lagoons?

LESSON V.

MOUNTAINS.

MOUNTAINS, as you have learned, are in rows or chains. Sometimes the chain is narrow; sometimes it stretches out over quite a wide country, with high valleys between the different tops, or peaks. The highest mountains are about five miles high; but not many are so high as this.

You might think that mountains, with their steep,



MOUNTAINS.

rough sides, often bare and rocky, would be of no use to us.

But, though they are not good for fields or gardens, goats and cows and wild deer think their sides fine pasture-grounds; for there are often patches of excellent grass.

Besides this, mountains often contain many treasures which we are glad to find and dig out. Under the rocks and earth are great beds of coal, quantities of iron, copper, lead, and even gold, silver, and diamonds. Digging out such things is called *mining*; and there are coal-mines, lead-mines, gold-mines, etc.

When all the coal near the surface in one place has been dug from the earth, a deep hole is made, something like a well, which is called a shaft. Men go up and down through this shaft by ladders and ropes, and dig out more coal far down under the ground, drawing it up to the surface.

But, by digging away a great deal of coal and earth with it, after a while a large cave is made, and the miners must go farther and farther to find more coal. It is dark and dreary there: the air is damp and close, and men are often crushed to death by the earth falling upon them; though they try to make it as safe as they can by leaving some parts untouched, which reach from top to bottom like pillars. They also put up wooden props.

These mines are often very large, — far larger than you can imagine; and hundreds of men work day and night in the dark holes with torches and lanterns. Not only men, but women and children, work in mines; and sometimes miners eat and sleep under ground, and do not see daylight for many days.

Besides the treasures buried in mountains, their sides are often covered with forests of tall pine-trees. From

the trunks of these a sap, or juice, runs out, which makes turpentine, rosin, and other useful things. Great quantities of charcoal and tar are also made from the pine wood, and the tallest, straightest trunks are used for making masts of ships.

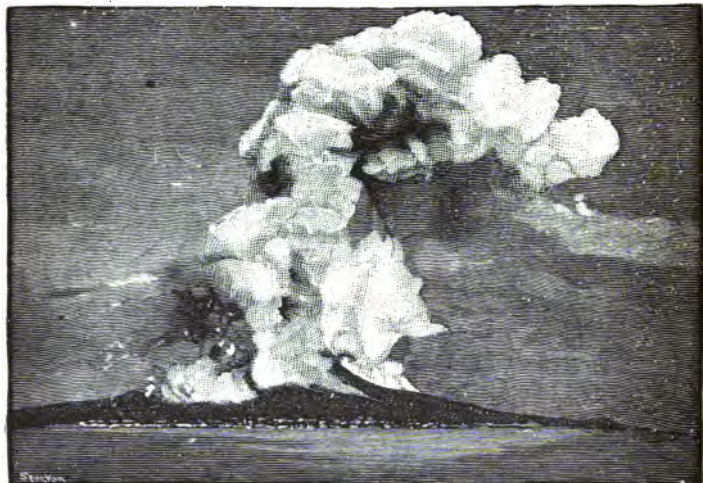
Low down on the mountains grow leafy trees of many kinds, and handsome, blossoming shrubs; but as we go higher up, we shall find only pointed evergreen trees, such as spruces and firs. The flowers will be smaller, but pretty and delicate. If we climb higher still, we shall find only stunted bushes and mosses, and we shall begin to feel very cold. If we still have courage to go on, we shall find the mountain toward the top covered with snow, even in summer and in a hot country; for, so high above the surface of the earth, it is always cold.

The snow among the high tops melts very little. Great fields of snow are found between the peaks, and the narrow valleys are filled with it. Though the heat of summer in these high valleys is not enough to melt the snow, sometimes it thaws a little and freezes again, and at last becomes ice mixed with snow and water. This begins to slip slowly, slowly down the narrow mountain valleys forming real moving ice-rivers, which are called *glaciers*.

These great white rivers creep for miles among the snowy tops, and sometimes reach as far down as the grass-fields around the villages, into the very midst of the hardy little wild-flowers. The people who live in such villages are accustomed to the snows above them, and to the steep mountain paths; but strangers often find the way dangerous.

Still stranger than the snow-covered mountains are the fire-mountains — always hot and smoking, and often blaz-

ing up, throwing out red-hot stones and a melted substance called *lava*. These burning mountains are found mostly in warm countries. They are called *volcanoes*, and the large hole at the top, from which the flames and smoke come out is a *crater*. Sometimes, after a volcano has been quiet for a long time, a great smoke will burst out, with



AN ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS. (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

strong odors of sulphur and gas. Then follow lumps of rock, and lava which runs down the sides in large streams that sometimes flow over farms and even towns. After a time the flames and roaring noise cease, and the lava becomes cold and hard like stone, and the people around who had run away go back to see if their homes are safe. But even when the houses are not touched by the lava, the cultivated fields are often so much injured that, for a while, little will grow upon them.

I dare say some of you have seen bits of lava made into bracelets and ear-rings ; for it is a curiosity here. It is of several colors—brown, slate, tea-colored, and white.

LESSON V.—Are all mountain-chains alike? Of what use are mountains? What is mining? How are mines made? Of what use are pine forests? What is found on the tops of high mountains? What are glaciers? What are volcanoes? What is lava?

LESSON VI.

PRAIRIES.

PRAIRIES are great level lands, sometimes reaching for many miles over the country, having only here and there a clump of trees. The prairie-grass is long and thick, and makes good food for large herds of cattle, as well as horses. In some countries, men are out all the time catching wild horses or cattle from herds that go galloping over the prairie. These cattle-hunters have swift horses of their own, and hold ready in their hands a long rope with a slip-knot at one end. When they overtake a troop of horses, they choose one, and quickly throw the knot over his head, keeping the other end in their hands. The knot slips close, and holds the horse fast. In some places, the horses are caught by the leg instead of the neck ; and, from long practice, these hunters become very skilful in throwing the rope, which is called a *lasso*.

A prairie on fire is a grand and beautiful sight ; that is, if one can see it without being in danger. Such a fire sometimes occurs toward the end of summer, when the long grass is dry and burns easily. It may catch from the

camp-fires of hunters ; and, once lighted, the flames rush over miles and miles of prairie-land. Often in warm seasons the prairies are covered with beautiful flowers of all colors, looking gay and bright amidst the green grass. In some places, during the rainy season, it is hard travelling across the flat prairie,—for it is very muddy ; and wagons are made for the purpose, with broad wheels that do not sink down easily.

Some prairies, instead of being perfectly flat, are wave-like, with very low, rounding hills or swells ; and these are called rolling prairies.

LESSON VI.—What are prairies ? What is a lasso ? What is said of a fire on a prairie ? What of the flowers ? Is it always good travelling on prairies ? What are rolling prairies ?



LESSON VII.

DESERTS.

IF any of you live in the country, or have taken journeys, you must sometimes have seen places where the land looked very poor, with large patches of bare, reddish earth, and only scattered bushes or straggling weeds ; but the very barest hillside or most worn-out field you ever saw is a garden compared to a real desert.

Far away on the other side of the round earth are several deserts, so large that it is a journey of many days to cross one of them. We may stand in the midst of a desert, and, even with the best eyes, look as far as we can, and see not a blade of grass, nor the least little weed ; nothing but sand, sand, hot shining sand, that hurts the eyes, and

burns the feet. And, all around, this sand is flat and smooth, unless the wind has heaped it in little mounds, or swells. If we were travelling across one of these deserts, we should, perhaps, go on for several days, seeing every day the same tiresome sand, with no grass, no trees, no streams of water. And we might come at last to a large



IN THE DESERT.

patch of grass, with a cluster of tall trees bearing dates, — the small fruit we get dried and packed in brown, sticky lumps, but which is there fresh and smooth like a plum. But better than green grass, and better than the shade of trees, is the spring or well of fresh water that we should find ; for of that we should be in great need. Such a green spot in a desert is called an *oasis*. But how do you think people and horses could go without water for two or three days at a time ? It is very true, horses could not ; and, for this reason, camels are preferred to horses for travelling across deserts when the way is very long. But, if you have never seen a camel at a menagerie, I must tell you that it is a tall, long-necked, long-legged creature, with

a great hump on its back. Upon these useful animals a man may ride, and pack a large load of merchandise, — that is, goods which he buys or sells; for in this way every thing is carried across the desert, instead of in wagons or cars: so that people say of a man there, "He is worth so many camel-loads."

But all this has nothing to do with the water. What makes the camel so well fitted for travelling over the vast plains of dry, hot sand? It is because he can travel a number of days without drinking. He is able to do this by means of a sort of bag or pouch at the bottom of his long throat. He fills this bag, after drinking what he needs; and it holds enough water to last him several days. As there are many of those small, green watering-places scattered over the desert, travellers do not suffer much if they manage their journey rightly; for they can carry enough water in bottles for their own use.

Want of water is not the only danger in crossing the deserts. At some seasons of the year, very strong winds blow, and often come up suddenly. Now, as the sand lies loose for some depth, clouds of it are lifted up in the air by these winds, and, coming with great violence, sometimes bury or suffocate people: eyes, mouth, nose, and even ears, being filled with sand. If the travellers see the sand-cloud coming, they jump from their camels, and throw themselves flat on the ground, with their feet toward the wind, and cover their heads. Even camels have sense enough to kneel, and turn away their faces.

On account of these and other dangers, people do not travel alone over the deserts, but in large companies, chiefly of merchants, buying at one place, and selling at another. A company of merchants with their loaded

camels, men to drive them, and any other persons who choose to join them, is called a *caravan*.

LESSON VII.—What are deserts? Are they ever large? What is an oasis? What animal is used for travelling across deserts?

Why are camels used in travelling across deserts? What are sand storms? How do people journey across deserts?



LESSON VIII.

SHORES OR SEA-COASTS.

You remember that the edges of the land, where it touches the water, are jagged and uneven, running out and in, and making points, or capes, of every size. There is a great difference in these coasts. Sometimes the land rises all at once high out of the water, like a great, rough wall, with the rocks cut and worn in deep cracks. Such steep coast-rocks are called *cliffs*.

As the sea is generally deep where the shore is high, the strong waves dash against the huge rocks, curling and foaming with a loud roar, mingled with a sound of dashing and splashing. And if many large rocks lie scattered in the sea, along the coast for half a mile out, then what rushing and whirling! When there is a storm, the water roars louder than ever, and leaps against the cliffs, dashing about as if it were mad.

Ships cannot always sail near such a rocky coast as this with safety. For this reason on a point of rock there is

often built a tall, narrow tower, called a *lighthouse*, because



A LIGHTHOUSE.

in the top of it is placed a large lantern, which gives a light that can be seen far out on the water, and shows the sailors where the dangerous places are.

The land sometimes slopes gently down to the water, making a

belt of pebbles and shells, or of smooth, white sand. Such a low, sloping coast is a *beach*. The great, blue sea rolls

up slowly and gently with a low, pleasant sound, far over the beach, and then rolls back, leaving on the sand shells, bits of coral, sponge, and seaweeds. It leaves also numbers of tiny living creatures, amusing to look at,—little star-shaped things with long feelers, which they fling



A STARFISH.

about, searching for the water that has left them. Quite unlike these are bits of jelly-like substance, which you would never think were animals, unless you could see them swimming; when they change, like fairies, into beautiful, gay-colored creatures. Then there are hundreds

of funny little brown crabs that always run side-ways, and very fast too.

There is a fresh, pleasant breeze blowing in from the water, generally in the afternoon; and this is called a *sea-breeze*.

If there is a bay in a high coast, it makes what is called a *harbor*, or safe place for ships to stop in. When the harbor is very good, a large city often grows up there.



A CRAB.

If you lived in such a city, you would no longer have a pleasant beach to walk on. Warehouses would stand in rows, full of hogsheads of sugar, sacks of coffee, barrels of fish, and other things. The shore would be covered with boxes and barrels, carts and drays. Where the crabs and jelly-fishes used to come up, there would probably be a sort of long platform, called a *wharf*, built far out into the water, so that vessels could be easily loaded and unloaded.

Low coasts are often bordered by banks of sand, which it is dangerous for ships to approach, so that the best harbors are where the coast is high and the water deep

LESSON VIII.—What are cliffs? What is said of the sea near rocky coasts? What is a lighthouse? A beach? What are found on beaches? What is a harbor? What is seen if a city is built on a good harbor? What is a wharf? Where are there no good harbors?

LESSON IX.

OCEANS.

I. — *The Water of the Ocean.*

THOSE who have only seen rivers or lakes cannot have much idea of the great ocean, where, for days and days, one may sail without seeing a sign of land.

If you stand on the shore, and look over the water, far away the blue waves roll, until they seem to reach the sky. The ocean is not often still ; for even on a pleasant, mild day, when there is no wind, the great, blue surface of the water rolls slowly in long, broad waves ; and, if there is a wind, each wave, when it has risen as high as it can, curls into a white foam at the top, and then sinks down, and makes way for another. And so they go on, swelling, rising, foaming, sinking, one after another, day after day, year after year. But sometimes, when the wind blows hard, they dash so high, that many a ship is broken and lost.

Besides the moving of the waves, the water rises and sinks again along the shores twice every day. These risings and fallings are called *tides* ; and you will understand their cause better by and by. The tides are not of the same height everywhere. In some places the rise is only a foot or two ; while in others the water at high tide covers quite large islands and rocks along the shore, that were dry before.

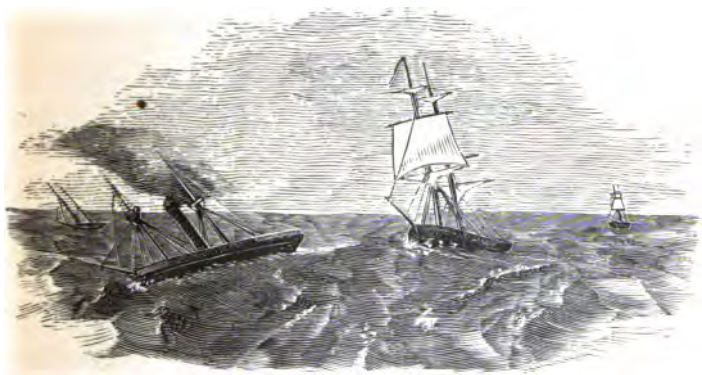
LESSON IX.—How does the ocean look as you stand on the shore ? What motion has the water besides that of waves ?

LESSON X.

OCEANS. — CONTINUED.

2. — *What is on the Water of the Ocean.*

IF oceans were not between the portions of land, we should not live so comfortably; for we need many things not found in our country, and the people on the other side of the earth need things that we have. So all gain



ON THE OCEAN.

by exchanging one thing for another. This selling and buying is called trade, or *commerce*; and the more any country trades, the richer it becomes. All the things brought into a country are called its *imports*. All those sent out of the country are called its *exports*.

Now, if every thing had to be carried by land, it would be tedious work, especially if the things were very heavy.

Besides that it would be so costly, that often merchants would not be paid for their time and trouble. But on water, heavy things may be carried with ease, speed, and cheapness. On the oceans, therefore, are many vessels, sailing here and there in all directions, carrying all sorts of things to all sorts of people.

Vessels cannot stop out in the open sea, but must come near the shore, into good harbors, where the water is not so deep. Here a strong chain is thrown from the vessel, with a heavy iron anchor at one end, which sinks deep into the mud at the bottom of the water, and holds fast. Large cities will generally be built near good harbors, where ships filled with merchandise can anchor in safety.

LESSON X.—What is commerce? Why cannot people trade wholly by land? Why are good harbors necessary?

LESSON XI.

OCEANS. — CONTINUED.

3. — *What is under the Water of the Ocean.*

You will expect to find fishes in the sea, of course; and there are many things besides. The fishes are various in size and color. Many are good for food, or useful in other ways; and some are so large as to be feared.

There is a slender little fish called the *flying-fish*, not because it flies high in the air, like a bird, but because every little while it darts out of the water, and often falls upon vessels. It is a strange sight when a whole flock fly together.

In warm places, when the weather is pleasant, sailors sometimes see, gliding over the blue water, delicate, gauzy-looking things like air-bladders as big as one's fist. On the upper side are pretty crests, with all the colors of the rainbow—blue, green, yellow, violet—sparkling in the sun-



IN THE SEA

shine. On the under side, delicate white streamers hang far down in the clear water, or float behind as these beautiful little creatures move along. With some of these they catch their food. They are called, by the sailors, *Portuguese men-of-war*.

Often there are seen following vessels monstrous fishes, with long mouths, armed with two rows of sharp, strong teeth, ready to devour any thing that comes in their way. These are *sharks*: and the sailors fear them greatly; for they are indeed terrible creatures, and sometimes even eat men. If a poor fellow happens to fall overboard when sharks are near, he is sometimes seized and torn in pieces before a boat can be let down to save him.

Of all creatures living in the sea, the *whale* is the largest, and one of the most useful. This huge animal is almost like an island when lying still in the water; but one can

distinguish him far off by an appearance of water spouting out of his nostrils. People kill whales to get their fat, which makes oil for lamps, and a fluid called spermaceti, from which candles are made.

A horny substance, which we call whalebone, is also taken from the whale's mouth. Many vessels are sent every year to catch whales; and, as the whalers stay out until they get as many barrels of oil as the ships can carry, they are sometimes gone a long time.

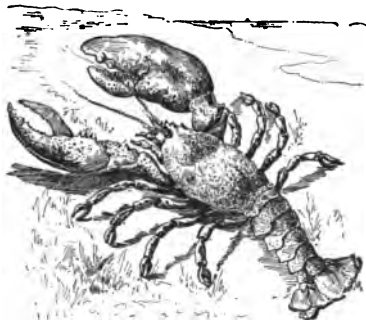
It is difficult and dangerous to take whales; and men often lose their lives in this business. When the sailors see a whale, they lower small boats into the water, and row in them until they approach him, taking care not to frighten him. They have a long spear, called a *harpoon*, with a rope tied to one end; and this spear is shot from a gun at the whale. The huge creature then plunges deep into the water: but the rope is let loose by the men; and sometimes, before they can strike him again, he lashes the water with his tail, so hard as to upset the boat and drown the sailors.

If they succeed in killing the whale, the vessel is brought near; and the men jump upon the great back of the monster, and cut off the fat in large lumps, which are afterward fried to make oil.

There are many small animals in the ocean that live near the shore, among the rocks and sand. The oyster, for instance, lives between two rough shells shut tightly together, except when it opens them a little way to let in water, that brings the tiny creatures on which it feeds. Almost everybody likes to eat oysters; so cans and kegs are filled with them, and sent to cities far away from the sea; for oysters cannot live in the fresh water of rivers or lakes.

The clam has his house made of his two shells, like the oyster. Boys and girls living near the seashore go in parties, and have quite a merry-making in digging the clams out of the sand, and building a great fire on the stones to roast them. Lobsters, also, are good for eating. They are curious, jointed animals; and, when they are boiled, their hard shells turn from greenish-brown to a bright red.

I cannot think of telling you about all the fishes that are taken from the ocean for food. In some towns it is the business of the people to catch fish, salt them, and pack them in barrels to send to those who have no fish near them. The best of these salted fish are salmon, cod, and mackerel.



A LOBSTER.

There are many strange creatures in the sea not used for food. You remember the little coral animals. There are other little creatures which form the *sponge*, such as you use for your slates or for bathing. This is found in bunches, clinging fast by one end to rocks under the water; and men go out in boats and gather it by hooks on long poles. Sometimes, too, divers gather it with their hands. It must then lie in the sun, and must afterward be well washed before it is fit to use.

Besides these living creatures, many plants called *sea-weeds* grow near the shore, but under the water, and often come floating to the surface. Some of them are

used for food by people living on the seashore ; some are useful in making glass and other things ; and some are carted away by farmers to spread over their fields as manure.



A SPONGE.

Many seaweeds are very beautiful, with bright colors, red, yellow, purple, and green : some have broad leaves, like fans ; and others have fine, delicate branches, like tiny feathers. It is pretty work to press such seaweeds on paper, for they look

like beautiful paintings. People often press and keep them, to learn about their ways of growing, as we do with the plants of the land.

LESSON XI. — What do we find in the sea ? What is a flying-fish ? A shark ? What is said of the whale ? What is taken from the whale besides oil ? How are whales caught ? What smaller animals are spoken of ? What kinds of fish are salted ? What is said of sponge ? What are seaweeds ? Are they of any use ?



LESSON XII.

SPRINGS.

In many parts of the country, springs of pure water abound.

But besides the springs of good, clear water, you may have seen sulphur-springs or iron-springs. You know

that iron and other minerals, such as sulphur and copper, as well as different kinds of salts, are found under the ground, mixed with the earth. The water, in some places, takes up particles of these minerals, as the stream flows over them, and tastes strongly of them.

When such water bursts out in a spring, it is called a *mineral spring*; and these springs are often of much use. The waters are good for many diseases; and large hotels are sometimes built near the springs, for the persons who go to drink the mineral water.

In some parts of the world there are *hot springs*, where, though the water is clear and sparkling, it is as warm as if it had been heated on the fire.

RIVERS.

I have already told you that rivers rise from springs or small lakes. The water flows in the direction in which the ground slopes; since water, you know, cannot run up hill. Therefore, the beginning of a river—which is called its *source*—must always be higher than its end, which is called its *mouth*. A river must also be much smaller at the source than at the mouth; for the longer it runs, the more streams flow into it. The largest rivers, then, will be those which flow through a great distance before reaching some ocean or sea.

Now, water will run faster down a hill than on a level; so that rivers which flow through the most sloping country will move most quickly; and often the water, finding steep rocks in the way, must tumble over them all at once; which it does with a great gushing, spattering noise, whirling and foaming, as you may know if you have ever seen a mill-dam, or even the water of a little brook

running over stones. What must it be, then, when the whole water of a great river falls over a high ledge of rocks ?

This often happens in rapid rivers, and is called a *waterfall* or *cataract*. If it is only a narrow stream of water, leaping lightly down a steep place, it is a *cascade*.



FALLS.

Fast-running rivers, with low falls here and there, are the best on which to build mills, since there is always a rush of water to turn the wheels. As mills are needed for making cloth, grinding corn, sawing plank, and many other things, these small rivers are very useful, even when not big enough for boats to sail upon. For these reasons, towns are generally built near some river, unless they are on the seashore ; and even then it is well to have the town near the mouth of a river.

LESSON XII. — Why do not all springs give pure water? Of what use are mineral springs? What are hot springs? How do rivers begin? Which way do they run? What is the end of a river called? The beginning? Which is the higher? Where will the large rivers be? What is a waterfall? A cascade? Of what use are falls?

LESSON XIII.

RAIN.

As water is useful to us in so many ways, we like to know something about it. Since rivers are all the time flowing into the ocean or seas, and carrying water there, where does all the water come from that not only keeps the rivers full, but sometimes makes them overflow their banks?

You may think it comes from the ground, since springs are found there; but then, you will remember, the earth is at times dry and parched, so that many springs dry up, and farmers complain that the crops are spoiled. What does everybody long for at such times? Rain, you say; and that is just it. The rain falls, the water sinks into the earth and fills the springs, thousands of little rivulets come rushing down every steep place in the country, and perhaps the snows far off on the mountain-tops melt, and come pouring down, swelling the streams with more water to carry to the sea.

But where does the rain come from? Oh! from the clouds in the sky, you say. But, after all, perhaps you cannot tell how the clouds came there.

You often see wet clothes hung out to dry, and the water in them is soon gone; and, if you set a plate full of water out of doors, the water will slowly disappear, or, as you say, dry up. But the water from the clothes and the plate must be somewhere; and, in fact, it is in the air. Now, the air is always taking up water from the ground,

from ponds, lakes, and from the great ocean; so that you see the water is changing round all the time. It comes from the clouds pure and tasteless; it runs through the earth, getting a little of its minerals; and into the ocean, where it is bitter and salt; and at last to the sky once more, where it is all pure again.

VAPOR.

Since water is constantly rising into the air, it must be all the time around us in the air we breathe; and this is true; yet we do not see it, except as mist or rain; neither can we see it when it is actually rising from the earth, though it disappears before our eyes.

The fact is, it rises in a thinner, lighter form; for a whole drop of water could not be lifted up without being changed.

While the water is rising into the air around us, it is called *vapor*, or *moisture*.

When we feel this moisture, or vapor, we call it *dampness*.

When the vapor becomes so thick that we can see it, we call it *mist*, or *fog*.

But at last, when the air has received as much as it can hold, then the moisture gathers in clouds, and down it pours in drops of rain.

The degree of moisture in the air around us makes a great difference to plants and animals, as well as to our own feelings, and often helps to make one country quite different from another. Where it is warm and very damp, trees and plants grow very large, and there are many serpents and insects; but, where it is dry and hot, the leaves of plants are small, and mostly strong-smelling.

LESSON XIII. — Why do we wish to learn all we can about water? What keeps the rivers full? Where does rain come from? What happens when wet clothes are hung out to dry? Is there always water in the air? Why do we not see it always? What is vapor? Dampness? Mist, or fog? When must rain fall? What difference does the amount of moisture in the air make to plants and animals? Who can tell the whole story of the rain?

LESSON XIV.

THE SUN. — LIGHT AND HEAT.

Now you have found out how the rain fills the rivers, how the moisture in the air makes the rain, and how the surface of the earth gives out moisture.

But what causes the moisture to rise? As we always like to hang wet clothes in the sunshine, and as they will also dry by a fire, it must be *heat* that dries them chiefly, though they will always dry faster if kept in motion, as in a wind.

In many ways, therefore, the sun is of great use to us. Indeed, we could not do without it, unless we were changed into very different creatures. The sun not only gives us light, but also heat, without which we could not live; and it also takes up moisture from the great ocean and lakes, which falls in showers over the land, making all green things grow, and filling the streams and rivers.

If the sun shone upon the whole surface of the earth at once, there would be no night. But, as the world is shaped like a ball, only one-half can be lighted at one time. This you will see if you hold a large ball near a

lighted candle. The side next the candle will be in the light, while the opposite side is dark.

But you can turn the ball round; and, instead of the same side always being lighted, the candle will shine upon one part of the ball, and then upon another.

This is just what happens with the earth and the sun. Though you seem to see the sun in different places, it really does not move; and it is the earth turning very fast which makes the sun appear to move; just as, when you are riding very fast, the trees on the road-side seem to move.

You can remember that this motion of the earth is like that of a top spinning round and round, and that the earth turns round once every day. In this way it is daylight in some lands while it is night in others; for whichever part is turned away from the sun has night, and each part takes its turn.

You will see, now, that what we call day is our time for the sun. When we are just turning into the light, it is morning, and we say the sun rises. When we are turning away from the light, it is evening, and we say the sun sets.

Heat also changes with the light. When the sun-beams fall directly upon any part of the earth's surface, they give much heat as well as light; and so the noon is the hottest part of the day. At morning and evening the beams slant off more; and therefore it is cooler.

You cannot understand the reason for the difference between the heat of summer and winter until you are older; but we will take the ball again, and try to learn why *some* parts of the earth are *always hot*, and *other* parts *always cold*. Let us mark on the ball two spots opposite each

other, and then hold it so that the light of the candle shall fall directly upon another spot half-way between these two. You will see that the light is brightest just in this last spot, and grows fainter around it as the rays slant off. Now, turning the ball carefully, and passing a pencil over the brightest parts, it will make a line entirely round the ball just half-way between the spots we first marked; and this line we call the *equator*.

This is the way the earth moves; and there is a great belt on its surface many miles wide, where the sunshine is always hot; and the lands that lie in this belt are much warmer than those beyond it.

The sun's rays slant off more and more on each side of this belt, until at two opposite places, corresponding to the spots we first marked on our ball, there is very little light or heat.

These places are called *poles*; and the lands around them are covered with snow. The parts between these and the hot lands are sometimes cold and sometimes hot, and are called *temperate* countries.

LESSON XIV.—What causes moisture to rise? What gives us heat? Of what other use is the sun? Why do we have day and night? Why is it cooler at morning and evening than at noon? Why are some parts of the world always hot, and others always cold? Can you explain this lesson with a ball and candle?

LESSON XV.

CLIMATE.

HERE are some things to remember well.

The sun shining on the earth makes heat for us.

A circle round that part of the earth's surface where the sunlight is brightest and hottest is called the *equator*.

The sunlight slants off more and more as the distance from this line increases; and, at the two opposite places most distant from the equator, there is scarcely any heat or light.

These places are called *poles*. One is the *north pole*, and the other the *south pole*.

Climate is a name for the different weather in different places.

All lands near the poles are cold, and covered with snow; and all low lands near the equator have a hot climate.

Fig. 1.

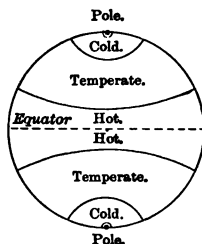
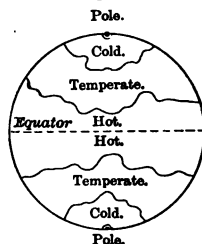


Fig. 2.



Now you may draw on your slates a circle to represent the earth, and divide it so as to show where we find these

different climates. Fig. 1. These belts around the earth are called *zones*; but there are many reasons why there is not an equal degree of heat on all parts of the lines that divide them. Fig. 2 will better represent lines of equal heat and cold.

Besides these differences of heat, there is another change that you cannot understand so well: but you can remember that, in all parts of the world, the higher we go up above the earth's surface, the colder it is; and this is why high mountain-tops are always covered with snow, though sugar-cane and oranges may grow at their bases. So here are two ways, Figs. 3 and 4, to represent degrees of heat:—

Fig. 3.

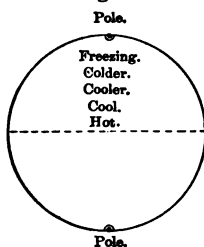
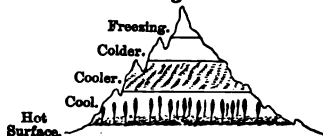


Fig. 4.



LESSON XV.—Tell all the things in this lesson that are to be well remembered.

PART SECOND.

LESSON I.

DIRECTION. — DISTANCE.

Who can tell me what I mean when I say, "In what direction are you going?" or, "I shall walk in such a direction?"

You all know how to find your own homes, and the homes of your different friends, and when to turn up one street or road, and when to turn down another; that is, you understand in what *direction* you must go in order to reach certain places.

Now, if you wish to tell a person where a house is, you can do so by naming the streets to be passed through, or the houses on the way. But in the country, or far away in woods or deserts, or on the wide ocean, where there are neither houses nor roads, people could not travel without some way of knowing different directions. And it must be a way that everybody can understand, or one person could not explain to others exactly where he had been; and two persons could not find the same country except by chance.

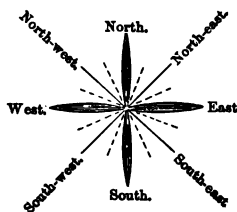
So, all over the world, people have come to learn direction by the sun, which can be seen by all, whether on land or water. Where the sun *seems* to rise is called *east*; where it *seems* to set is *west*. When one stands with the right hand toward the east, and the left to the west, his

face will be turned to the north, and his back to the south : so that east and west are opposite directions, and so also are north and south. Knowing these four directions, — north, east, south and west, — men can easily travel over the world, and find the places they look for.

But, to save a great deal of trouble, they must know one thing more ; and that is, how far to go in one direction. Suppose one man tells another that, to find a certain town, he must travel north, and afterward turn to the east : this man must have some idea how far north to go before turning east. For this reason, people everywhere have land-measures, such as miles ; and degrees, which are much longer than miles. You see, then, how quickly one could find a town if he were told to go twenty miles toward the north, and then turn to the east and go on six miles farther. In this way, people can travel everywhere, even on the ocean, where there are no paths. Looking at the sun every little while, the sailors know in what direction they are going, and, by counting the distance they have sailed, how far they have yet to go.

Besides the four great points, — north, south, east, and west, — we often use four more just between these.

Half-way between north and east we call north-east ; half-way between south and east is south-east ; and then there will be north-west and south-west. Sailors have even more than these ; and these directions are all marked down, and called the points of the *compass* ; somewhat like this :—



LESSON I.—What do we mean by direction ? Why must all people have the same way of telling direction ? How do we learn

direction? What else besides direction must we think of in travelling? What is a compass? In what direction is your school-house from the nearest church?

LESSON II.

MAPS.

FOR this lesson, I should like to show you what the *plan* of a house is. You know what a picture is, and that a picture of a house can give us quite a good idea of the house when we are not near it. But then we see only half of the house: for, if the picture represents the front, we cannot see the back; or, if one side is drawn, we cannot see the other, — whether it has doors, windows, or porches. Now it often happens that, for building or other purposes, it is necessary to understand exactly about all parts of the house at once: and this can be done by a sort of drawing called a *plan*; that is, a drawing of *only the floors of the house*. These plans, though not pretty, like pictures, are yet very useful.



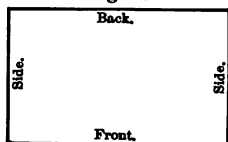
Let us see, now, if we can draw the plan of a house. It will be quite easy, — only a few straight lines. First, we will make for the front edge of the floor a long line, so —. Next, making the corner square as it is, we will draw a line for one side, and we shall have the two lines, thus ; and then add the other side, thus, . And, when the last line for the back edge of the floor is made, there will be the shape of the house, as in Fig. 1. But let us divide this floor

Fig. 1.



into three rooms,—a large room on one side of the passage, and two small ones on the other side, as in Fig. 2. Then places for the doors and windows can be marked out by leaving open places in the floor-lines. When all this is done, the ground-plan, or floor-picture, will be finished (Fig. 3), and carpenters could build from it another house just like it.

Each of you may try to make a plan for to-morrow, either of the school-house or your own dwelling.

You will see now that, though many pictures have been made of different parts of the earth, still those who have never seen the places could not learn where they were, nor how large, nor of what shape. So we are obliged to have plans of the earth's surface,—plans of islands, oceans, continents,—made by men who have seen them. But

you must remember that the edges of land are not straight, like the edges of a floor, and must be drawn with all the gulfs and bays; so that the plan or ground of an island might look somewhat like Fig. 4.

And just as doors and windows are represented by little lines that do not look much like them, so the mountains, rivers, and towns are marked out by signs that every one knows.

Fig. 2.
Back.

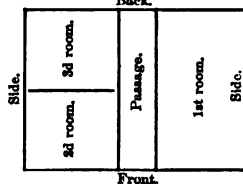


Fig. 3.

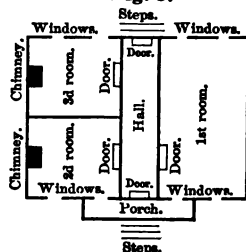
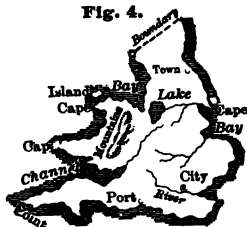


Fig. 4.



These plans of land and water are called *maps*; and by them you will learn where all the countries of the world are, with their mountains, rivers and towns.

Maps are generally made with the top for the north, and the right side for the east, the bottom for the south, and the left side for the west.

Sometimes you will see one map much larger than another of the same country; but that is only like having a large and a small portrait of the same person.

You must be very careful to remember this, or you will get queer notions of the world. We cannot always use a map with the whole of the earth's surface upon it, because there would not be room to mark half the rivers and towns. Some parts of the world are so thickly settled that the towns are not more than a mile or two apart, and the map of such a country will need room for a great many names; while again there are miles of wild woods, or desert land, with scarcely a house or village. So it often happens that for the smallest countries we need the largest maps; but you must never forget how the different countries compare with each other in size on the map of the world.

I think you will understand all this easily enough when you remember how often you see in one book a very little picture of a horse, and in another book quite a large picture of a butterfly. Yet you never suppose that a butterfly is as big as a horse; and this is because you know so well their real size.

Just so you should look at the countries on the map of the world until you are quite sure how they compare with each other in size. Their form is always the same, whether they are drawn large or small.

LESSON II. — What is the difference between a picture and a plan of a house? What is the plan of a house? What are maps? Which part of the map is generally north? Are maps of the same country always of the same size? Why do we sometimes need a large map of a small country?

LESSON III.

THE HEMISPHERES.

THE best way to learn about the surface of the earth is to have a map drawn on a round wooden ball, which would look like a little world; but this is not always convenient, and we are obliged to have maps made on flat paper. This is easy enough when only the map of a part of the earth is made: but it is hard to make the whole round surface at once on paper; therefore it is the custom to divide it into two equal parts.

Any round ball is a *sphere*; and half of the ball would be half a sphere, or a *hemisphere*.

On the following pages are two maps, each representing half the earth's surface. One is called the map of the *Eastern Hemisphere*, and the other the map of the *Western Hemisphere*.

On the Eastern Hemisphere you will find one great continent, which has three grand divisions, named Europe, Asia, and Africa. There is also a very large island, named Australia, which may be called a second continent.

On the map of the Western Hemisphere, you will find one continent, divided into North America and South America. These were not known by the people living in the eastern continent for a long, long time; and for this

WESTERN.



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

These two round maps show the two halves of our world. In which half do we live? In the Western Hemisphere are two great countries. What are their names? In which of these do we live? Put your finger on the place. In what part are they wider, the northern or the southern part? Which way is the western continent longest? How are the two great countries held together? What is the name of the ocean east of America? What countries are around the Pacific Ocean? What icy oceans are about the poles? Where can you stand in North America to be nearest to Asia? Which has more land, the eastern or the western hemisphere?

EASTERN.



I. THE WORLD.

Look at the eastern hemisphere, and you will see that here also are two great countries held together by a narrow strip of land. Try to find it. One of these two continents is made up of Europe and Asia; so some people call it, for convenience, Eurasia. Which continent has more peninsulas, Eurasia or Africa? What is that big island in the eastern hemisphere? What land east from the northern part of South America? Suppose you sail west from North America, what then? If you were in Australia and wanted to go to South America, which way would you sail? Let us sail west from Europe, what then? What country south of Europe? Which is the largest ocean? What ocean would you sail over, going from Australia to Africa? Would this be a warm or a cold voyage?

reason the Western Hemisphere is often called the New World.

These continents are separated by large oceans, and in the oceans are scattered many islands.

Around the North Pole is the Arctic Ocean. Just opposite this, around the South Pole, is the Antarctic Ocean. Between Asia, Africa, and Australia is the Indian Ocean. That long ocean, reaching from the Arctic to the Antarctic, with Europe and Africa on one side, and America on the other, is the Atlantic. The fifth and last ocean is the largest of all, and is between Asia, Australia, and North and South America. This is the Pacific.

LESSON III.—What is the best way to represent the surface of the earth? What way is more convenient? What is a sphere? A hemisphere? What do we find on the map of the Eastern Hemisphere? What on the Western? Why is the Western Hemisphere called the New World? What are found between the continents?



LESSON IV.

THE GRAND DIVISIONS OF LAND.

ASIA is the largest of these grand divisions. It is divided into different countries, and in them live many nations who are pagans; that is, they know nothing of God whom we worship, and many of them make idols of wood or stone. There are no Christians, except a few here and there, who have been taught by preachers, called *missionaries*, sent from Christian lands.

But what seems rather strange is, that in the part of the world where we find most pagans is the country

where Christ was born, and where most of the things happened that are mentioned in the Bible.

Very many years ago, in the western parts of Asia, there were large, rich cities, in which were many splendid houses, and a great trading and travelling people. Perhaps you have heard of one of these cities, called Babylon; for it is often spoken of in the Bible. It was in this region that the wonderful stories of the "Arabian Nights" about genii, enchanted palaces, golden fruit, and talking birds, were first told; for even grown people there like to listen to such stories.

AFRICA. — As soon as Africa is named, you all, of course, think of the negroes; for this is the part of the world where they lived before they were carried to other countries. There are many tribes of negroes in Africa, each tribe with its own king. They are mostly ignorant, wear few clothes, and build no fine houses.

This, I dare say, you knew before; but what you do not know, perhaps, is, that the northern part of Africa has always belonged to a very different sort of people. In the old time, so far from being ignorant, much of the learning of that day came from them; and to this time are found in that country some of the most wonderful buildings that man ever made. These people have dark, brownish skins, straight, long hair, and small, pretty features. They are not so great and powerful now as they once were.

In Africa, as well as in Asia, are many fierce, wild beasts that we do not have here, — lions, tigers, elephants, leopards, and many others.

EUROPE. — Europe is the smallest of all the grand divisions, but perhaps the most interesting; at least, we

know much more about it. Almost all the people are Christians, and some of the greatest nations have lived there. It is now divided into many countries, of which you will learn something by and by.

Long, long ago, a powerful people lived in the south of Europe, and became masters of all the countries around them. They were called Romans, and their great city is still visited by persons who wish to see the ruins of their beautiful buildings. But they have passed quite away; and even their language, the Latin, is no longer spoken, though still taught in our schools.

AMERICA. — As the main parts of the continent of North America and South America are quite far away from the others, separated from them by great oceans, it was many hundred years before the people in the other half of the world dreamed that there was such a great country opposite them. It was only after they began to think the earth was round that they sailed across the ocean far enough to find America.

A dark-colored, wild people were found there; but now the greater part of the continent is filled with white people from the Old World. Those who first came were from different parts of Europe, and soon made new homes and towns among the woods of America.

AUSTRALIA. — This continent is almost as large as Europe, and although it is rather newly settled, handsome cities have grown up rapidly along the coast. Australia belongs to England and has been settled by English people. Although the first settlers went to find gold, farmers now raise sheep and cattle. They also make wheat grow, and maize, while some people still dig for gold and for other ores as well.

LESSON IV.—Which is the largest grand division? What is said of it? What grand division south-west of Asia? What is said of it? Which is the smallest grand division? What do we know of Europe? What great continent on the other side of the world? What people were found there when the first settlers came from the Old World? What is said of Australia?

LESSON V.

ABOUT THE OCEANS. — ATLANTIC.

OF all the oceans, the Atlantic is the most travelled over, and the best known. Around its sides are many gulfs and bays, making good harbors. The people who live near it are those who trade the most; so that hundreds of vessels are always sailing over its waters. In this ocean are many large islands, and from some of them the vessels bring fruits, sugar, molasses, and salt. In the northern part of the Atlantic are many vessels looking for whales, and others going home, already filled with barrels of oil.

A little south of the whaling ships we shall find, rushing straight across, backward and forward between America and Europe, immense steamers, making all the haste they can. These steamers not only carry passengers, but cotton, flour, grain and provisions from America, and bring back from Europe muslins, silks, woolens, and other goods.

Sailing up from the coasts of South America are vessels loaded with coffee, sugar, dye-stuffs, and hides, or going back with flour, cloth, etc. Very often on the Atlantic there are rough winds and violent storms, destroying

many vessels; but sometimes no wind blows for days, and vessels can scarcely move.

The gulfs, seas, and bays which are a part of the Atlantic are Baffin Bay, Hudson Bay, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Chesapeake Bay, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Guinea, Mediterranean Sea, Bay of Biscay, North Sea, and Baltic Sea.

LESSON V. — Which of the oceans is best known? What vessels sail in the North Atlantic? What ones between America and Europe? Between North and South America? What of the winds? What gulfs and bays are made by the Atlantic?

LESSON VI.

PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE Pacific Ocean is larger than any other, and is in the form of a great round basin. It is far less rough and stormy than the Atlantic, and therefore was called *Pacific*, which means peaceful. But this larger ocean is not so much travelled as the Atlantic; for most of the people who live along its shores have a habit of staying at home, and do not go about trading and exploring, as those nations do who live on the shores of the Atlantic.

Many vessels are sent out on the Pacific to take whales of a different kind from those of the Atlantic. They have no whalebone, and not so much oil; but from the head is taken spermaceti, used for making beautiful, hard, white candles; and something called ambergris, used as a perfume, is sometimes obtained from them.

Scattered about in the Pacific—particularly toward the south—are hundreds of islands, large and small. Many

of these islands are made by the coral animals, and are often very beautiful. But the people who live on them are mostly savages, with brown skins, and who wear hardly any clothes. They are ignorant and lazy, and they like to swim in the clear, bright sea, or lie on their mats in the pleasant air of the long summer days.

Seaweeds grow larger in this ocean than anywhere else. Some of the leaves are very long, even several hundred feet.

Of late years, since so many people live in California, numbers of large steamships sail along the coast. Some vessels sail quite round South America, from the Atlantic into the Pacific; but the steamers go from the Isthmus to California, and back again, although many people and goods are carried across the continent by railroads.

The gulfs and seas which are a part of the Pacific are Sea of Kamtschatka, Sea of Ochotsk, Sea of Japan, Yellow Sea, China Sea, and, on the opposite side, the Gulf of California.

INDIAN OCEAN.

The Indian Ocean is much smaller than the other two, and is wholly in a warm climate. In it are many islands, some of which are very large. It is from these islands that vessels come loaded with spices, gums, coffee, and sugar. From its waters are taken great numbers of pearls, used for ladies' ornaments, which often cost large sums of money. Pearls are found inside the shells of a kind of oyster; and as these oyster-shells lie far down among the rocks and sand at the bottom of the sea, men dive under water to get them. This is very unpleasant work; and one would never think such pretty little things could cause so much hard labor and pain.

Diving is so dangerous and difficult, that only the poorest of the people living on those islands can be hired for pearl-divers. Parties of perhaps a dozen men go out in boats a little way from the shore, and then half of them dive to the bottom, where, for a few moments, they scrape as many shells as they can into bags which are hung round their necks, and come up again when they must breathe the air. Water and often blood gush from their ears and eyes. While these men rest, the others dive. This is very fatiguing and painful work, and divers seldom live to be old men. It is no wonder that ladies must pay so much for their pearls. Sometimes men go down in diving-bells, which are filled with air, so that they can stay a much longer time.

The seas, gulfs, and bays made by the Indian Ocean are the Bay of Bengal, the Sea of Arabia, the Persian Gulf, and the Red Sea.

LESSON VI.—Which is the largest ocean? Why is it called the Pacific? Why is it travelled less than the Atlantic? What is said of the whales taken in it? What is said of its islands? Why do many vessels go to California? How do they get there? What gulfs and seas are made by the Pacific? What is said of the Indian Ocean? How are pearls found? What bays and gulfs are made by the Indian Ocean?

LESSON VII.

MORE ABOUT THE OCEANS.

WITH the Antarctic Ocean we seem to have very little to do, and no one cares much for it. Whales are caught there; and from time to time some men have taken a

notion to sail on its waters, and see what they could find. Only a little land has been seen ; and all is cold, dreary, and out of the way of the rest of the world.

It is quite different with the Arctic Ocean. Though its waters are generally frozen, and the climate is very severe, men have managed to find out a good deal about it ; and are still trying to learn more, even with great suffering, as you may one day read in the books written by those who have been there.

There is much land around the North Pole, as the Arctic Ocean is enclosed by the largest parts of three continents. Most of the land farthest north is too dreadfully cold for any people to live there ; but many persons have thought that a way might be found to sail through the Arctic Ocean, and so make a shorter voyage from the Atlantic to the Pacific, bringing many countries near together that now seem very far apart. For this reason, and some others, people have, every little while, sent out vessels, well prepared with food, coal, and wood ; and bold, hardy men, determined to bear the cold as long as possible.

Some of these vessels, with their men, have never been heard from ; a few traces of others have been found, perhaps after several years, showing that they had been frozen up in the ice, and perished.

A few have returned, after great suffering, to tell what they have found. In those dreary seas, scarcely any thing is seen but ice. Sometimes the water is frozen hard into a great sheet for many miles ; and, even when it is open and deep, there are huge lumps of ice floating slowly about : in fact, they are called *icebergs*, which means ice-mountains.

It is very dangerous sailing among these icebergs ; for



IN THE ARCTIC REGIONS

they may drive against vessels, in the fog or the night. It often happens that a vessel is frozen fast in a bed of ice, and cannot move for months, or even for a year; and the men not only are frozen so badly as to lose fingers or toes, but suffer for the want of fresh food.

LESSON VII.—What is said of the Antarctic Ocean? What of the Arctic? Why is the land about this ocean not very useful? Why have people cared to go there? What are icebergs? Why are they dangerous?

LESSON VIII.

ABOUT THE ISLANDS.

EAST INDIES. — These large islands are mostly rich and beautiful, and for a great while people have been trading there from all parts of the world. The climate is hot, so that the forests never lose their leaves; and the islands are covered with a great variety of plants and sweet-smelling shrubs. All kinds of spices grow there, — pepper, cloves, nutmegs, cinnamon, — besides those costly woods used for making work-boxes and other small articles. Eb-

ony is one of these, — a very hard, black wood, which can be polished so as to shine as if it were varnished. Another kind is the fragrant sandal-wood, of which fans are often made. Cloves are the flower-buds of shrubs which grow there. The cinnamon we use in cooking is the inside bark of the cinnamon tree, and is brought to us in bits of

the curled bark, or finely powdered. A strong-smelling oil is sometimes made from cinnamon, and oil is also made from cloves and nutmegs. From certain trees in these islands a great quantity of a clear white gum is taken, which we call camphor. Other gums, used for medicine, are found here; and the sago, so good for puddings, is



PEPPER.

made from the pith of certain trees. In the East Indies are a great many dye-woods, used for making beautiful colors. As all these things sell for much money, men are well paid for sending vessels to these islands to obtain them.

WEST INDIES. — These are large islands south-east of North America. If you will look carefully, you will see



ORANGE TREE.

that these also lie near the equator, where we know it must be very warm : indeed, it is always summer ; and the people wear thin, light clothes to keep cool. Sailing south on the Atlantic, and coming from the cool, northern countries, we shall soon see these islands rising, all green and beautiful, out of the water. There will be groves of tall, straight-stemmed cocoanut-trees, with their long leaves spreading out at the

tops ; and clusters of orange-trees, with their golden fruit hanging thick among the green leaves, and their beautiful white flowers, whose sweet smell comes through the air with every breeze. There are bananas and pine-apples and many other rich, sweet fruits. But what we shall most notice will be great fields of something,

which, at a distance, we might take for corn, but which is sugar-cane, stretching far and green over all the small hills. Scattered about here and there, in the midst of clusters of fruit-trees, stand the houses of those who own the sugar-cane ; and near each dwelling is a sugar-house, where the sugar is made, and then sent to the largest towns of the island. Vessels are waiting in the harbor to bring away all this sugar, to be sold in colder places, where the cane cannot grow.

Coffee and tobacco also grow here ; and the best cigars which you see gentlemen smoke probably came from one of the West-India islands. A great deal of salt is brought from some of the islands. Deep troughs are made in the ground, and filled with the salt sea-water. The hot sun soon draws up the water into the air, leaving at the bottom thick cakes of salt.

LESSON VIII.—Where are the East Indies? What is their climate? What shrubs grow there? Tell what is said of them? Where are the West Indies? What trees and plants grow there? How is sugar made? What other things are brought from there? How is salt made? If a vessel should sail for Europe from one of these islands, how would it go? If it should sail for North America, which way must it go? What would it carry?



LESSON IX.

MORE ABOUT THE ISLANDS.

BRITISH ISLES. — You have all heard of England and the English people. Indeed, you hear of them more frequently than of any other country or people : and it would be strange if it were not so ; for the Americans speak

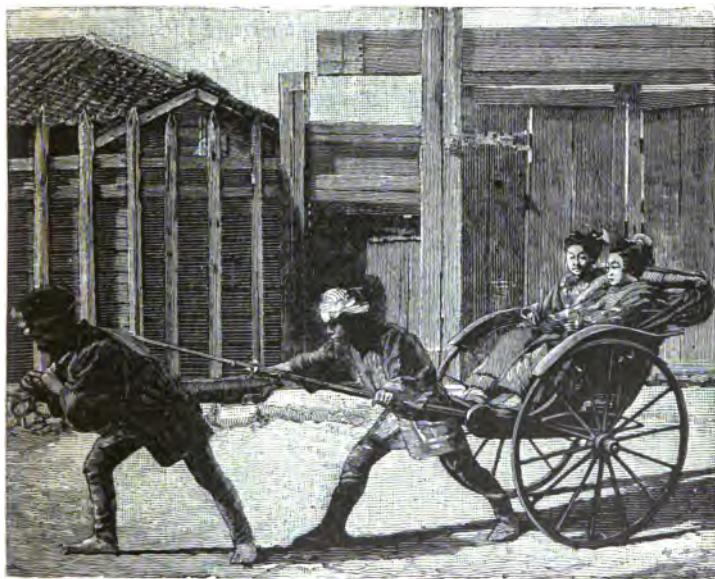
their language, and our great-great-grandfathers were Englishmen, who came over and settled in America long ago.

But it is not only we who hear and speak of England. The English are known far and wide over the earth. Their vessels sail on every ocean, sea, or gulf. There are also numerous bits of land that they claim as their own; and some are very large bits too,—much larger than their own England. They have sent out many armies, fought many battles, built many cities, during hundreds of years, and are more powerful than most of the nations of the earth. You will think, therefore, to find England a very big piece of the earth's surface; but you will find, off the west of Europe, in the Atlantic Ocean, two large islands, and these are the British Isles; that is, England and Scotland making one, and Ireland the other.

Though they make such a small country, they hold a multitude of people. In fact, they are rather crowded; and many ship-loads of men, women, and children, sail off to try their fortunes in some new place, like America or Australia, where there is spare land. As there are so many people with so little land, they employ themselves in all kinds of manufactures; that is, in making all manner of things to wear or to use. There are cloth-factories, where they make calico, cotton-cloth, and woollens; china-factories, iron-factories, paper-factories, &c. It is very interesting to learn how some of the commonest things are made; but you must read about them in other books. Multitudes of people are also employed in mining and in commerce.

You must not think that all the people in England are busy workmen; for, beside the millions of laborers, there

are many rich men, who own the factories and mines ; and doctors, merchants, lawyers, &c., just as we have here. There is a class of people in England, called the nobility, quite different from any in our country. They use titles before their names. Instead of Mr. Howard, a nobleman would be called Lord Howard ; and if you lived there, and belonged to the nobility, you would be called Lady Emma.



A GARRIAGE IN JAPAN. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

or Lord John. Many of these lords live in large, fine houses, with parks, hot-houses, and beautiful pictures and statues. The lands and titles are kept in the family, sometimes for several hundred years, by giving them to the eldest son, instead of dividing the property among all the children, as would be done here.

JAPAN ISLANDS. — These Islands are off the eastern coast of Asia, and make quite a large country. Japan is still more crowded than England, for the people have had no fancy for going about and settling in other countries, as the English have done. For a long time they kept their own way of dressing and living, and allowed few strangers to visit their country. Lately, however, they have taken many of our customs, and have sent some of their young people to England and America to be educated. They now have in their own country good schools much like ours. They carry on quite a trade with other countries, and we see many curious and beautiful things from Japan in our shops, for steamers are running all the time between Japan and California.

LESSON IX. — What other people speak the same language that we do? Why? What is said of the English? Is England a large country? How are the people in England employed? What is meant by the nobility? Where are the Japan Islands? What do we know of them?

LESSON X.

MORE ABOUT THE ISLANDS.

AZORES. — If we should sail from the middle part of the coast of North America, eastward over the Atlantic, for a number of days, we should at last see, far off, something like bluish, shadowy clouds; but the sailors would say that it was land; and, after a few hours' sailing, the misty clouds would change into a group of beautiful islands, called the Azores.

High cliffs rise from the midst of the foaming waves, all cut and gashed in deep cracks, through which many noisy

torrents and sparkling cascades come rushing and leaping down into the sea. Here and there on the sides of the hills, farther inland, are thick groves, and fields of bright green, spotted with white houses and little villages. And over all this is the clearest, brightest sky; and the soft air is made sweet by the fragrance of orange-blossoms. The weather is delightful, and people from both continents go there for health. These islands are quite small.

MADEIRAS AND CANARIES. — Leaving the Azores, and sailing some miles farther east, we should find another group of islands, called the Madeira Islands, where is made the Madeira wine at one time much used.



Very near these are the Canary Islands; and I am sure you all know the little birds that were first brought from these islands, and cannot live in our cold climate, except in houses, where we keep them in cages. The bright, soft yellow, called canary-color, is the natural color of the birds; but they are often partly brown from mixing with the linnet, a little dark bird of the same size, that sings beautifully.

Far south of the Canaries, just west of Africa, is a small, rocky island, quite alone and dreary, which is neither useful nor beautiful; but people remember it because it was there that the great emperor Napoleon Bonaparte was kept a prisoner. Probably some of you know already what a powerful man he was, and what great armies he had, who would march wherever he directed them. But

his enemies took him prisoner at last ; and, because they thought no other prison would keep him safely, he was sent to St. Helena, that lone, rocky island in the sea.

In the Indian Ocean, just south of Asia, there is quite a large island, called Ceylon ; and, like the other islands in this ocean, it has a hot climate, with no winter, and many spices and fragrant woods and gums. But, above all, the coast of Ceylon is famous for its beautiful pearls, which are finer than any others.

Besides these islands, there are thousands of smaller ones scattered over the Atlantic, and even more over the Pacific ; but you will not learn of them just now.

In the midst of the Pacific is a group called the Sandwich Islands, which are now well known in many parts of the world. Missionaries went there years ago to teach the natives, who have now become quite civilized. They have schools and churches, and keep up a large trade, especially with California. We often see in our newspapers the names of vessels sailing from Honolulu, which is the largest town of these islands.

There is, however, one large island we must not forget. It is off the north-east coast of North America, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and is called Newfoundland. It is cold most of the year. A large part of the island is bare and dreary ; and there are heavy, damp fogs almost all the time. From all this, you might think Newfoundland of little use ; but it is worth a good deal, and men have even fought for a right to its shores, because thousands of barrels of fish are caught every year in the waters near the island. The shore is lined with fishermen's huts, and platforms for drying the fish after they are salted. The cod is the fish chiefly taken ; and it is sent in large quantities to other parts of the world.

Half-way between Europe and America, in the North Atlantic, is a large island called Iceland; and, from its name, you might think it the coldest place in the world; but it is not so. Though it is so far north, it is, from certain causes, milder than other places that are farther south. There are some high mountains on the island, and wonderful springs of boiling water, called *geysers*, that are great curiosities. There is also a volcano. About a hundred years ago, this volcano threw out so much lava, that villages and crops were destroyed, and fish near the island were killed by the lava that flowed into the sea, so that there was a famine. You will wonder why people live in a country where they have so hard a time between the cold climate and the under-fires. But the Icelanders love their home and are brave and industrious.

The Bahamas and Bermudas are two groups of small islands in the Atlantic, north of the West Indies.

LESSON X.—Where are the Azores? What is said of them? What islands not far from them? What come from the Canary islands? From the Madeiras? What of St. Helena? Of Ceylon? Of the Sandwich islands? Of Newfoundland? What of Iceland? What islands north of the West Indies?

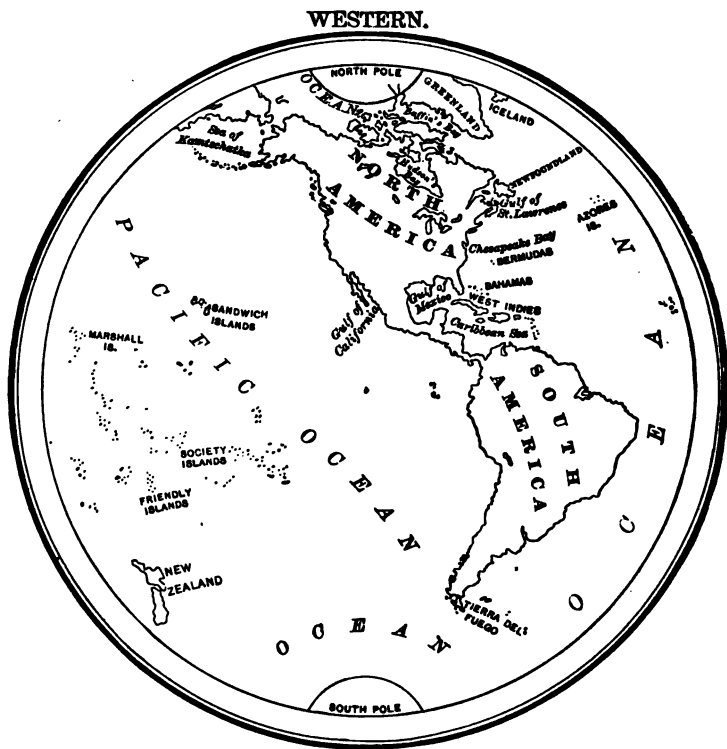


LESSON XI.

ABOUT THE MOUNTAINS.

See Map.

WHEN I speak of a chain of mountains, you must remember that they do not run in one long, unbroken row, but a chain is made up of many ridges of different length



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

ON this map are the names of many islands, seas and bays. Find the islands from which we have cloves and cinnamon. Which way are they brought to North America for our pies and puddings? If you wanted to see bananas growing, to what islands would you sail from North America? In what direction? Where are England and Ireland? Do bananas grow there? Why not? From which of all the islands did the fore fathers of New England come? In what direction do the steamships sail from us to that island? Where do the canary-birds come from?

EASTERN.



II. THE WORLD.

To what continent is their island nearest? Do you think they ever fly across? Could the canary-birds live out of doors in Iceland? Name some of the islands where you think a canary-bird could live out of doors all the year round. From what islands does some of our sugar come? Which way should you sail to get the sugar? Which way would you sail from that island to carry it over to the children in England? Where is the cold, foggy island where the fishermen live?

and height, often crossing one another, and making valleys between the peaks.

There is just such a long, wide-spreading chain of mountains running through the western part of North America, called the Rocky Mountains. Many parts of these ridges are rough and dreary; and, while the rest of the country has become thickly settled, this has fewer towns. Parties of bold, hardy men, who make a business of hunting, often wander through the forests and over the plains to shoot deer, bears, and antelopes. There were once many buffaloes or bison, but there are none here now. The hunters have no houses, only huts or sheds here and there, and camp when they find a good place.

There is another range much nearer the Pacific coast, called the Sierra Nevada. Not a great many years ago, it was found out that there was much gold in these mountains; and a great many people rushed here from all parts of the country to dig gold, and to get rich all at once. Not only from America, but from other countries, even from the coast of Asia, where people are so fond of staying at home, men crowded to the gold-mines; and so many went, that, in a very short time, a large city was built up as if by fairy work. Other smaller towns were settled where the gold was plenty; and there is now quite a rich State off there beyond the Rocky Mountains. But it has become rich more from its grain and fruits than from its gold. New towns are rapidly growing up among the Rocky Mountains, where have been found mines of silver and copper, lead and iron. Many travellers now cross this vast mountain region on the railroads and tell us of its geysers and other wonders.

The southern part of the Rocky Mountains extends through that narrow part of North America, which, as you

may see on your map, reaches toward the equator, where the climate is warm. Among the highest peaks, are many volcanoes ; some of them smoking and flaming. Several ridges spread out, making a high, level table land in the midst of the mountains. Here is a large city called Mexico, and villages are scattered in the smaller valleys.

LESSON XI.—What is a chain of mountains? What chain through the western part of North America? What is said of it? What range nearer the Pacific? Where is the gold region? What is said of it? What of the mountains of Mexico?

LESSON XII.

MORE ABOUT THE MOUNTAINS.

ANDES.—The Rocky Mountains, instead of ending with North America, seem to extend quite through the neck of land that joins it to South America, and run along the whole western coast of this grand division also ; but, in South America, these mountains are called the Andes.

In many parts, the Andes are very high ; but they do not spread out so wide as the Rocky Mountains. However, toward the middle part, several ridges open wide enough to make a high valley, with cities in it.

Generally the mountain sides are steep, and the valleys deep and narrow : so that often, instead of valleys, there are only *ravines* ; that is, deep cuts. Travelling across such mountains is not easy ; and yet there are many cities and even railroads built on their sides. There are few roads fit for any kind of cart or carriage ; and people ride on mules, or donkeys, which are still more

sure-footed. These donkeys often carry very heavy loads, and will walk over the most dangerous path without stumbling. In some wild places, travellers ride in a sort of chair strapped on the back of an Indian, who is used to



CLIMBING THE ANDES.

such labor, and will carry a person in this way for miles. Sometimes, where a deep ravine is in the way, a queer sort of bridge is used: that is, two strong ropes are stretched across, and fastened tightly on each side. A basket is swung on the ropes; and a man sitting in this basket, with a rope under each arm, works himself along over a cut so deep that a fall would dash him to pieces. Often, to make it more frightful, there is a torrent of foaming, rushing water in the ravine.

The sides of the mountains are covered with thick woods of huge trees, with shrubs of the richest green crowded between, interwoven with twining vines.

Perhaps, as the mountain road winds continually, the traveller may get a sight of the ocean every little while, far, far down; for the Andes rise in many places directly from the Pacific Ocean, or from the Caribbean Sea.

Another very beautiful sight is the sunlight upon the far-off, higher tops, coloring them brilliantly when they are covered with snow. And, besides the light above, one may now and then look down, and see a cloud below one's feet, causing rain in the valley while all is dry above. Sometimes, on a sudden turn, a large city is seen spread out beneath. There are streets, church-spires, squares, fountains and red house-tops, glittering in the sun; and, scattered through the valley, clusters of trees, with clear, sparkling streams winding among them.

If one were to go much higher, there would be only the cold air and dark pine woods, and, above these, the everlasting snows; for you must remember how cold it always is on high mountains, even in hot countries.

The Andes are rich, in many parts, with gold and silver, particularly the latter; and, for this reason, there are towns built far up in bare, rocky places which are good for mining. The silver is dug out of the ground, mixed with earth and stones. This is called silver *ore*; from which by heating and other processes comes pure silver.

There are some high volcanoes in this chain; and their eruptions are often accompanied by a violent shaking of the earth around. Shakings of the earth are called *earth-quakes*, and often do great harm, throwing down houses, and crushing hundreds of people to death.

LESSON XII.—Where are the Andes? What is said of them? How do people cross these mountains? Tell all you can about it? What should we find at the tops of the highest? What mines in these mountains? What are earthquakes?

LESSON XIII.

MORE ABOUT THE MOUNTAINS.

ALLEGHANIES. — You must have noticed that the eastern coast of North America, from the Gulf of Mexico to Hudson Bay, is not nearly so long as the western or Pacific coast. Running along this shore is a chain of mountains called the Alleghanies, much shorter than the Rocky Mountains, and also much lower.

Like other chains, it is made up of many ridges, having different names. One ridge is called the White Mountains, another the Green, another the Catskill, another the Blue Ridge, another the Cumberland, &c.

These mountains do not run close to the water, but leave a long strip of land between them and the Atlantic Ocean. This land is hilly near the mountains, and slopes down to a low plain near the sea. Through this plain, rivers rising in the Alleghanies flow into the ocean, turning mills as they go.

BRAZILIAN MOUNTAINS. — The mountains of South America seem to correspond exactly with those of North America; for just as the Andes match the Rocky Mountains (both being high, long chains), so the short, low ridges in the eastern part, called the Brazilian Mountains, correspond to the Alleghanies. It is enough for you, at present, to remember their names, and that many diamonds are washed from the streams flowing from them.

MOUNTAINS OF AFRICA.—The whole middle part of Africa, as far as it has been explored, is high land, sloping down on all sides toward the water. The Kong Mountains

are near the Gulf of Guinea, but the highest mountains are on the eastern side of Africa. Near the northern coast is another chain, called the Atlas Mountains. Find these on your maps, and remember the names.

MOUNTAINS OF ASIA.—In the southern part of Asia, you will find a chain in which are the highest mountains in the world. These are the Himalaya Mountains, running east and west, like most of the mountains of the Old World.

The north side of this chain slopes to a great, high valley. The other side slopes toward the south, into lower valleys; so that the slope is much longer. In some places, the sides are very steep; and many rivers rush down, making foaming waterfalls and roaring torrents. Deep cuts are



BAMBOOS.

often worn in the earth, and even in rocks, by these streams, making wild, gloomy spots; and in other parts the hill-sides are covered with trees, many of them strange to us, like the sandal-wood, the ebony, bamboo, banyan, and palm tree. In the hot thickets of the low lands, which are called *jungles*, there are lions and tigers; and the people go to hunt these fierce beasts. But it is not a very safe nor easy business: for, besides the terrible animals themselves, there are many poisonous snakes; and, as the sun cannot well get through the thick mass of leaves to dry the ground, there is always a hot, unhealthy air steaming from the rank leaves and decaying roots, that is apt to give fevers.

There are three more long mountain chains north of the Himalaya, running in the same direction. You may find the names on the map; but they are rather hard to remember.

LESSON XIII.—Where are the Alleghanies? What are the names of different parts? What lies between the mountains and the Atlantic? What mountains besides the Andes in South America? What is said of them? What can you say of the mountains of Africa? What of the Himalaya Mountains? What other mountain chains in Asia?



LESSON XIV.

MOUNTAINS.—CONTINUED.

THE ALPS.—As Europe is smaller than America, and very much cut into by gulfs and bays, there is no room for such long chains as the Rocky Mountains or the Andes. But there is no want of mountains; and the greater part of the south and middle is rough, hilly country.

Out of the many ridges and knots of mountains running in every direction, something like a regular chain, in the shape of a half-ring, may be marked out in the south of Europe, near the Mediterranean Sea. These are the Alps, and you will probably read and hear more of these mountains than of any others; for in the midst of the Alps, and around them, are several countries about which many interesting things are to be learned, besides what is strange and beautiful in the mountains themselves.

Here are fine, rich pine woods, grand glaciers, the prettiest little villages, and, in the midst of the high valleys, some of the loveliest lakes in the world.

Mountain travelling is generally hard work; but roads were made across the Alps hundreds of years ago, and now there is constant passing over the easiest paths. There are railroads, too, across the mountains, and in some places they run through the mountains in long, dark tunnels. Many persons are willing to do much hard climbing only to see this beautiful mountain country. Young men from all parts of Europe like to spend a summer shooting deer, on the Lower Alps; and men have been known to pass weeks at a time in the icy regions among the high peaks, that they might watch the motion of the glaciers. There are several peaks more grand and beautiful than the rest, and more visited: of these, the best known is Mont Blanc.

How People live amidst the Alps.—One of the first ridges toward the north is covered with large, gloomy pine woods. The giant trees stand straight and close, the dark-green branches meet and lap, so that in many places the sun forces but little of his light through the deep shade: and, in fact, it is called the Black Forest; but all is not thickly wooded.

This Black Forest is known far and wide through the country. The trees grow wonderfully large and strong; and the same fresh mountain air that agrees so well with the trees seems to make great, broad-shouldered, strong-limbed men, with bright eyes and bold hearts.

In the Black Forest we should find the men on one side of the hills wearing long beards, coarse, black jackets, enormous breeches tied below the knee, long red stockings, and sharp-crowned, wide-brimmed hats. Most of them work at glass-making, and are comfortably off in the world, with snug little houses near their glass-factories.

Those who are not glassmen make clocks, for which they find the pine-wood very convenient; and the wooden clocks of the Black Forest are sold in many countries.

On the other side of the woods there are no more glass-factories, no more red stockings. The people have quite a different way of living, and make the most of their pines. Many of the men are charcoal-burners; but still more make a business of cutting the tallest, straightest trees, and floating them down the little streams into the River Neckar: from this they float into the Rhine, and down to the sea, where the pine-logs are used to make masts for ships.

The raftsmen of the Black Forest wear brown linen jackets, black leather breeches, with wide, green suspenders strapped across the breast. But the pride of their hearts is in their boots, which truly are as big as it is possible to find on the earth: they reach more than a hand's-length above the knees of their long legs; and the men can step in water three feet deep without wetting a toe.

The people of the Black Forest are very hospitable, and welcome strangers in a friendly way. If one is sociable

with them, there will be very likely some talk of the *spirits* of the pine-woods; of the good little glassman, a foot high, who used to show himself—sharp hat, red stockings, and all—to their great-great-grandfathers, and make them rich in a trice; and also of Dutch Michael, a giant evil spirit, in boots three yards long, who tried how much mischief he could do. Many and many a story the children have about them; but, what is strange, neither the little glassman nor Dutch Michael ever show themselves now.

South of the Black Forest are many ridges of rather low mountains. Still farther east and south the land becomes more uneven, until we are altogether in the highlands of the Alps, with mountains all around. This is a wild, beautiful country, covered with rich forests, but not unsettled as among the Rocky Mountains; for every road winding around the steep sides passes some one of the many little villages or cottages that are scattered everywhere among the Alps. A cheerful village it is like to be, in a valley with a stream running through it, and shut in by mountains thickly wooded with beech-trees, maples, and pines. Behind these green mountains, much farther off and higher, are the jagged tops of a more bare and rocky ridge; and still farther and higher than all rise peaks covered with snow.

Near the stream is the village, the low houses all built alike, their roofs covered with planks, kept in place by a number of large stones laid upon them. These roofs hang far over the gable-ends of the houses, and partly cover the little open balconies before the door or windows of the second floor; and these balconies are painted some gay color,—yellow, blue, or red. In front of every house is a bench, where the men sit and smoke pipes when their

work is done. Somewhere in the village there is sure to be a sort of public garden or park, where the people sit in fine weather, and drink coffee and beer under the shady trees. There is a neat little church, and generally, a little way out of the village, one or two grand old stone buildings, whose queer turrets or towers, covered with moss and ivy, and narrow, arched windows with colored glass, are like nothing we see in this country. These belong to the great men of the place, and were built years and years ago.

There are many children in the mountain village ; and if we should ask the names of two rosy little girls, they might answer, "The miller's Rosel and the carver's Crescenz;" for that is the way they call one another in this village of Ammergau.

And what do you think a *carver* is ? If you have ever noticed the splinters of a bit of pine, you know that the wood is soft and easy to cut, beside being smooth and white. Now, people living among pine-woods have a habit of cutting bits of the soft wood with their knives, and often learn to make beautiful things ; that is, cups, spoons, boxes, picture-frames, etc., carved over with birds, leaves, and flowers. Quite young boys can carve dolls and toys very prettily. Those who can carve best make a business of it as they grow up ; and their work is sold from city to city, until we even have these things in America.

Besides the little girls, we may see some tall, good-looking young man, who has just come down from the higher Alps, where he has been at work. He has on a loose gray jacket, bright-green waistcoat, and short, tight-fitting breeches, tied at the knees. His legs are covered with green and red checkered stockings, and his feet with

heavy nailed shoes ; and he has a green felt hat with a bunch of black cock-feathers in it. If it is Sunday or a holiday, he will have a bunch of gay flowers besides the feathers ; and his breeches will be tied at the knees with bright-colored ribbons.

Seppel is a woodman, and has been with a party of men a couple of days' walk up the mountain. They took with them strong, sharp axes, and a bag filled with meal, cheese, butter and salt, a shirt and pipes. They left the maples and chestnuts far behind them ; and, once in the midst of the gloomy pine-woods, they looked for some mountain-torrent, built a rough shed, hung up their bags, and then went to work. They chose the tallest, straightest trees ; their strong arms swung heavily ; the blows of the axes fell with a clear, ringing sound far and wide ; and there was soon a pile of logs, that grew bigger and bigger every day until the rains came. Then they were thrown into the swollen stream, and left to float down to the nearest town, where they would be stopped by a dam, and sold for building.

The young woodmen and hunters on the mountains often fall in with a party of girls who have gone for a summer frolic to keep the cattle sent up to pasture. These young girls have rude little cabins to live in during the few weeks they are on the high Alp ; and, indeed, they often have a merry time of it. And such bright, healthy girls they are ! It is a pleasure to see them. They wear short red or flowered skirts, reaching to the ankle ; coarse blue stockings ; bodices of black or dark-green stuff, laced up in front over a jacket of white, coarse linen, with large, full sleeves gathered in below the elbow ; and a gay-colored handkerchief around the neck. Besides they have a jaunty

little straw hat, for these village girls, or peasants, never wear bonnets. We never see such a dress here: but the mountain girls wear it as their grandmothers did before them, and as their grandchildren will after them; for they have no change of fashion.

Besides the woodmen and the girls, there are charcoal-burners on the mountains, and chamois-hunters; and these people, who are mostly friends or acquaintances, have a pleasant way of cheering from one party to another, with a clear ringing shout, or long cry. It can be heard for miles; and a hundred echoes come from the mountains.

In this wild but pleasant mountain country we are still far from the highest peaks of the Alps. There are dangerous paths leading to the snowy tops; and among the storms and glaciers and great masses of falling snow, men are often frozen to death.

Far up on one of the highest mountain paths, there is a large building called the Monastery of St. Bernard. This is a house for priests or monks, who never marry, and dress all alike. These monks of St. Bernard do a great deal of good in that dreary, lonely place. They have had for years, fine, noble dogs, which are taught to go out with the monks in snow-storms to look for any persons who may be perishing with cold.

Travellers often lose their way when the path is covered with snow, and are found buried under the drifts. Sometimes they are found quite dead; but often those who cannot move or speak, when carried to the monastery, and rubbed before the great fire, revive.

After once crossing the higher parts, the traveller finds the slopes on the southern side of the mountains very

beautiful. In the valleys are the loveliest lakes in the world, with little boats gliding about on their clear waters; gardens and groves of fruit-trees sloping down to the shores; beautiful country-houses, called *villas*, on the mountain sides; vineyards and villages in the larger valleys; old gray monasteries far up on higher peaks; and here and there, glittering high against the blue sky, the white, snow-covered tops.

LESSON XIV.—Why are there no very long mountain chains in Europe? Where are the Alps? Why do we hear so much of the Alps? What of the mountain-travelling there? What is the highest peak? What is said of the Black Forest? What kind of people there? Tell all you can of the way they live and dress. What kind of country south of the Black Forest? What can you tell of a mountain village among the Alps? What of the wood-carvers? Of the woodmen? Tell about the girls. What shall we find higher up, near the mountain tops? What is the Monastery of St. Bernard? What is found on the other side of the Alps?

LESSON XV.

VOLCANOES.

VESUVIUS.—Volcanoes are scattered here and there in the great mountain chains. They are quite numerous in the Andes and the southern part of the Rocky Mountains. In the south of Europe are two that have done great harm. One of these, called *Ætna*, is on the island of Sicily, and formerly had violent eruptions. A very remarkable volcano is Vesuvius, which stands on the shore of a lovely bay of the Mediterranean Sea.

Once upon a time there stood a city at the foot of Mount Vesuvius. This city was famous for its beautiful

baths; and people from the country around liked to go there to rest from business, and enjoy themselves.

At the end of each street, there was a charming fountain; and one might sit down by it, and have a delightful view of the sea, then as beautiful, as blue, and sunny as it is now.

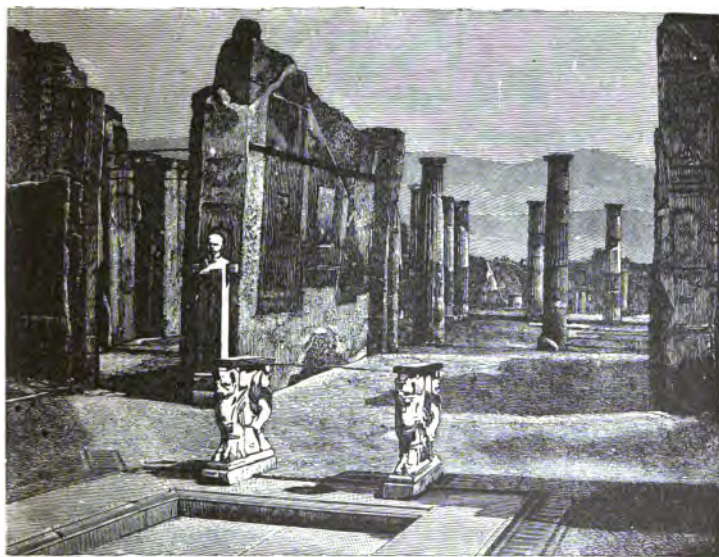
On fine days, crowds might be seen lounging about in gay dresses of purple; while slaves passed up and down with splendid vases on their heads, filled with perfumes and scented waters. Some persons sat on marble benches, with small tables before them covered with wine, fruit, and flowers; for, in that pleasant climate, people like to be out of doors as much as possible.

Almost every house in that city was a palace; and every palace had a garden, where rich fruit hung from the trees, and fountains cooled the air, and made a pleasant sound; while from every shrub peeped out a marble image or a vase of flowers.

The walls were painted with pictures, and the pillars were hung round with wreaths of flowers. The seats were often bronzed and gilt, covered with rich, soft cushions: and, when the master gave a dinner-party, the guests lay down, or leaned among the cushions; and, while they drank and ate, slaves filled their golden cups with fine wines, or sang and danced before them.

One day, when such festivities were going on in the city, Vesuvius sent up a great smoke; and, in broad noon-day, darkness black as night came over all. There was a frightful din of cries and groans, prayers and curses. The brother lost his sister, the husband his wife, the mother her child; for nothing could be seen but the flashes, which, every now and then, darted, like lightning, from

the mountain. The earth trembled; the houses shook and began to fall; the sea rolled back from the land; the air grew thick with showers of ashes; and then, with a tremendous noise, the boiling, hissing, steaming lava gushed out. The people fled; but some were struck down on the way. Those who returned a few days after found only a smoking plain, sloping to the sea, and covered with ashes. Down, down beneath was the lost city. The name of this city was Pompeii.



POMPEII.

Nearly seventeen hundred years after, when its fate was almost forgotten, curious persons began to dig upon the spot; and, lo! they found the buried city, with all its streets and palaces. There were skeletons of men, women, and children; and all kinds of jewels, furniture, and everything just as it was so many years ago.

Another city near by, called Herculaneum, was destroyed at the same time, and buried so deeply beneath mud, sand, and ashes from the volcano, that only a little of it has been uncovered.

LESSON XV.—Where are volcanoes mostly found? Where is *Ætna*? *Vesuvius*? Tell of the city that was once near *Vesuvius*. What happened there? What other city was destroyed?

LESSON XVI.

SOME OF THE RIVERS OF NORTH AMERICA.

You have already learned how useful rivers are; and, if you see on a map that a large country has no rivers, you may be sure it is bare and desolate, with little growing there.

But still, rivers cannot always make a beautiful country; for some flow where it is so cold all the year, that the frozen water is of no use, either to make things grow, or for boats to sail upon.

In North America, there are three large rivers.

1st, One flows north into the Arctic Ocean, called the Mackenzie, which is of little use, as it runs through the frozen zone.

2d, The St. Lawrence flows eastward into the Atlantic through a pleasant though quite a cold country. It makes a water-road from several large lakes to the ocean; and there are some handsome cities on its banks, also many small towns. Vessels and steamers go up and down, so that people and goods are carried from town to town, and are taken in large ships to other countries.

3d, Of the three rivers, the greatest and most useful is the Mississippi, — the most useful for three reasons. First, because it flows right through that part of the continent where the people are farthest from the sea, and need the water most. Secondly, because it flows from north to south for thousands of miles, through all sorts of climate and soils, from the pine-woods at its source to the sugar-plantations at its mouth; and by means of it the different products can be exchanged. How many boats are steaming up and down this great river! and how many different things they carry backward and forward! — lead from the mining regions of the north; flour, corn, pork, and beef from the broad prairies and farming-lands of the middle region; and also mules and horses from the fine grazing-lands. Still farther south we see whole boat-loads of cotton, and, farthest of all, sugar, molasses, and fruit, from the warm lands near the mouth of the river, besides the goods from abroad that come up in ships from the Gulf of Mexico.

How many things are exchanged by means of this one river and its branches! There are so many large streams running into the Mississippi from east and west, that they seem almost like giant fingers spreading out over every part of the country, and gathering every thing worth picking up far and near, and drawing it to the great river. And this is the third reason why the Mississippi is so useful. Of its branches, the Missouri and Arkansas are the longest from the west, and the Ohio from the east.

Besides these large rivers, there are many smaller ones, running from the east sides of the Alleghany Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean. These water all the strip of land between the mountains and the sea; and many of them

have good harbors at their mouths, and large cities on their banks. Some of the smaller ones toward the north have waterfalls, which are excellent for turning the wheels of mills and factories. I wonder if you have ever seen, in stores, calico or gingham, marked *Merrimac*, from the mills on that river, where it is made.

One of the most noted of these rivers is the Hudson, in New York; a beautiful river, with towns along its banks, large, handsome country-houses on the hill-sides, and at its mouth the great city of New York.

The western slope of the Rocky Mountains is drained by the Columbia and Colorado rivers.

LESSON XVI. — What rivers are of little use? What three large rivers in North America? Where is the Mackenzie? What is said of the St. Lawrence? What of the Mississippi? What large rivers run into the Mississippi from the west? What from the east? Where are other smaller rivers? Why so useful? Where is the Hudson? Merrimac? Columbia? Colorado?



LESSON XVII.

RIVERS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

THERE are also three large rivers in South America, easily remembered, each flowing through its own particular kind of country. You must understand, that, when we say such a river *waters* a country, we mean not only the river itself, but all the little streams that form it.

The most northern of these rivers is the Orinoco, which flows through a flat country called the *llanos*, or plains. There are but few trees, and no towns until the land begins to rise in hills, beyond the plains. This flat land is

almost like a desert at one time of the year; afterward it rains for several months. The grass springs up thick and green, making good feeding for large herds of cattle. The plainsmen, on their swift horses, dash after these herds with their *lassos*, and catch as many as they can. These plainsmen are dark and solemn-looking, with long black hair and beards and live almost all the time on horseback.

You must not forget that this northern part of South America is hot, being near the equator; and so just the opposite of the northern part of North America. In the *llanos*, then, there is no winter; but the seasons change from wet to dry. Half the year it does not rain, and the other half it rains every day. There are not, however, long, rainy days such as we have here sometimes, — that would be dreadful, — but only a good, quick shower each day, always at the same time, wetting the ground well, and then clearing off as bright as ever.

Farther south, but still in the torrid zone, is the great Amazon, one of the largest rivers in the world, reaching quite across the continent from the Andes to the Atlantic Ocean. Instead of running from north to south like the Mississippi, it runs directly from west to east, all the way through the same kind of country; not rolling and rushing, as might be expected of such a mass of water, but creeping slowly, lazily, through the flat country which stretches far away on both sides.

These plains of the Amazon are not covered with grass, but with vast forests. In the hot, steaming air, the trees grow so large, that the smallest would seem monsters to you. These giant trees stand thick and close, for no axes have cleared there. Even the small spaces are filled with bushes all twined together, with vines winding in and out,

and climbing up the great trunks, making them gay with flowers of every color. Many of these are air-plants, living on the trees, with their roots hanging in the air. Far up, the leaves shut out the sun, and make a strange, dark shade. Thousands of bright parrots shriek in the branches, and troops of chattering monkeys pass among the leaves with a rush like wind. And every moment there is the smooth, slight rustle of the great blue lizards running up the trees.

Along the streams, and over the marshes, swarms of mosquitoes fill the air, and huge alligators lie lazily in the slimy mud.

So thick and rank and wild are the forests around the Amazon! and in the day so still, but for the chattering of birds, and crackling of rotten boughs! And withal how grand and beautiful, with trees and wonderfully colored birds and butterflies and flowers! Here are no houses, no towns, and no people, except sometimes an Indian in his canoe, gliding in the open parts of the stream from some far-off village of huts. But the night, how terrible! No moonlight gets through the thick branches: it is dark, —utterly dark, except for the great fireflies that dart sparkling about. The parrots are asleep, and the monkeys still; but there are horrible glidings and hissings of serpents trailing around; and every little while through the livelong night come mighty roars of wild beasts howling fiercely in the dark,—roars so loud and long, that the whole earth seems to shake with the sound.

These Amazon woods are called *selvas*; and people from Europe and America have gone sometimes to see if settlements could be made; for there are many dye-woods, gums, and other valuable things there, besides the rich

ground, which could be cultivated if some of the trees were cut down. But that is no easy task. The climate is very unhealthy, and the horrible snakes and insects are very troublesome; so that while steamboats are puffing, mill-wheels are whirling, and bridges building, on other rivers, there is much less stir on the waters of the Amazon.

The only other very large river in South America is the La Plata, which is farther south than the Amazon, in the south temperate zone, where the weather is something like our own, though still not so cold in the winter. West of the La Plata are plains called *pampas*, that reach to the mountains. They are covered with clover and thistles. Early in the season, it is beautiful to see the herds of fine cattle feeding on the fresh clover and grass; but, later, the whole plain is a forest of thistles, — high enough to hide a man.

On the other side of the river, the country is hilly and pleasant, and there are several large cities.

LESSON XVII.—How many large rivers in South America? Where is the Orinoco? What can you say of the llanos? Where is the Amazon? What about the forests of the Amazon? What are they called? Why is it difficult to settle there? Where is the La Plata? What are the pampas? Into what ocean do the rivers of South America run? Why do no rivers flow west into the Pacific?

LESSON XVIII.

SOME OF THE RIVERS OF EUROPE.

As the mountains in Europe are in short ridges, the rivers are also short, and flow in different directions. But there is one long river in the east, called the Volga; and

another is the Danube, that you will find beginning among the Alps, and running east into the Black Sea.

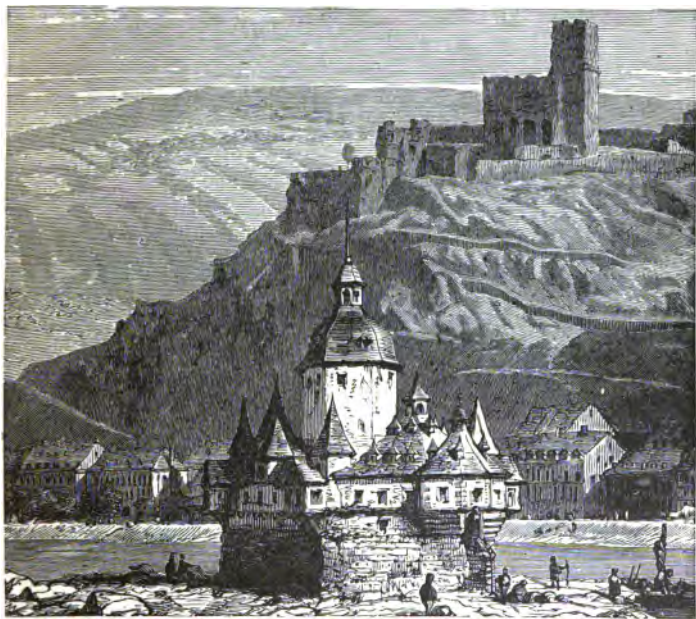
The Rhine, in the west of Europe, is one of the most beautiful rivers in the world; and the people who live near it love it dearly. It runs mostly through a mountainous country, beautiful and thickly settled. All along the banks are pretty villages; and every little while a great city spreads out in a wider valley, with many queer-looking old church-steeple rising between the hill-tops. Between and around the villages, the hill sides and slopes near the river are covered with vineyards fresh and green. These vineyards are fields of grape-vines, planted in rows, and carefully twined on short poles.

Often travellers sailing up the Rhine in the right season may see the country people, in their bright, gay dresses, gathering the grapes.

But the strangest sight on the Rhine, to us, would be certain great, gray piles of stone buildings, called *castles*, on the tops of the steep, high peaks, rising from the banks of the river, or at some distance from it. Some of these castles were built hundreds of years ago, in dangerous, fighting times, when those who were strongest took care of themselves, and built strong places to live in. They chose some high, rough spot where it would be hard for enemies to reach them.

So the old castles were made with strong, high walls, narrow windows, heavy, iron doors, court-yards for men and horses, places for guns, and loop-holes to peep through. There was no end of the long passages, narrow stairways, great halls, and high chambers to hold the ladies safely. There were deep, dark cellars, sometimes for wine and beer, sometimes for prisons. For many of these castles

were dens of robbers. On the Rhine, where the banks are high and the stream is narrow, castles are more frequent, for as the boats came down from the rich vineyards, the robber-knights made them pay, or they would find it



A SCENE ON THE RHINE.

hard to go by. Where a stream flowed into the Rhine, there was pretty sure to be a castle, for there would be a double chance to rob.

All that kind of living is over now ; and many of the castles are only old, gray ruins, overgrown with moss and vines, looking grim and dark and silent, far up above the green vineyards and pleasant villages.

Many boats sail up and down the Rhine ; and people

from other countries often like a summer sail upon its waters.

Not very far from the Rhine is the River Elbe, running north-west into the North Sea, with a slow current, through a rather flat country.

In England there is a river called the Thames, that you will often hear of; not because it is a great river, for it is not very long, compared with the rivers of America. Though it runs through a pleasant country, dotted with towns and country-houses, with pretty lawns sloping to the water, the Thames is not so beautiful as some other rivers; but it is in one of the best known countries in the world, and the great city of London is on its banks.

LESSON XVIII. — Why are the rivers in Europe shorter than those in America? Which are the longest? What is said of the Rhine? What are castles? Why are no castles built now? Where is the Elbe? What river in England? What is said of the Thames?

LESSON XIX.

RIVERS OF AFRICA.

THE NILE. — Look now in the north-east part of Africa, and there, in a country called Egypt, you will find a river running north into the Mediterranean Sea. This is the Nile; and it is one of the most remarkable rivers in the world. You will often read of it because of a great people who lived near it long ago; because of large, splendid cities that were once on its banks; because of more than one terrible battle fought there; and, most of all, because it is a very strange river. For a great while, nobody knew

where it came from; and its true source was found only very lately, in a great lake far away among the high mountains at the south.

The Nile flows through a long, narrow valley, and there is little rain all the year round, yet the land is rich and green, and the crops of grain never fail. Often, indeed, when there has been a scarcity in the neighboring countries, people have sent for grain to the banks of the Nile.

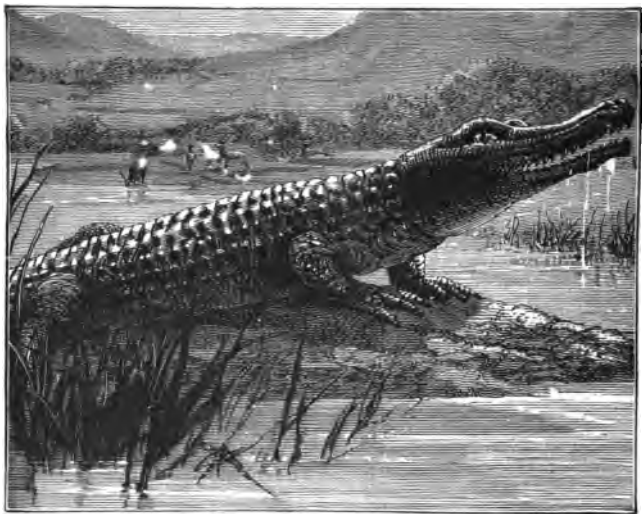
But grain cannot grow without water; and the land would be dry and bare, like the Great Desert near, if it were not for what happens to the Nile every year.

Though it does not rain very often in the valley of Egypt, it rains hard far to the south, where the little streams begin that make the Nile. There, among some high mountains, the rain pours, and the water rushes down in torrents, swollen by the melting snöws from the high peaks. So in the rainy season the water from all the little mountain streams is forced into the Nile; making it rise along its whole length, even for hundreds of miles beyond where rain falls. Higher and higher it rises, until the water flows over the banks on both sides, covering the fields far and wide. After some days, the water sinks again, and leaves the earth, for miles on each side of the river, nothing but soft mud. Then the farmers come out with great rejoicing, making a festival of planting their grain, which they can do without the trouble of ploughing; for they have only to scatter it on the soft mud, where it covers itself and keeps wet for some time. In such a hot climate, it soon sprouts; and, in a short time, the harvest is ready to be gathered.

The people make many canals across the country, by which they carry the water to a great distance from the

river, and manage so as to give it to the fields as they need it. In this way they raise, in some places, three crops a year.

In the slimy mud, on the edge of the river, creep huge, horrible-looking creatures, called *crocodiles*. They are like



CROCODILE.

giant lizards, with their great feet, scaly backs, and long rows of big teeth in a monstrous mouth, that can easily take in a man. You may think how people dislike and fear them.

There is another large animal often seen standing in the shallow parts of the Nile; not so horrible and dangerous as the crocodile, but ugly enough. It is called *hippopotamus*,—a long, hard name, which only means river-horse.

There is a large river in the west of Africa, called the Niger, which flows into the Atlantic, and the Zambesi, on

the other side, runs into the Indian Ocean. But it is by the Congo on the west that men will doubtless find the best way into the middle of Africa. A few years ago, Mr. Stanley, from America, with a little band of natives, put his boat into a river near the long, narrow Lake Tanganyika which you will find on your map. He sailed down this river as far north as the equator, and there came to some falls. These he called Stanley Falls. Here they carried the boat round the falls, put it into the water again and kept on their way. They sailed and sailed for a thousand miles, when they came to a wide, deep pool, and below the pool they heard the roar of cataracts. This wide water was called Stanley Pool. Here they took up the boat again and had a hard time going round these cataracts by the bank of the river till they came to smooth water, launched the little boat again, and came gladly before long to houses of men and the mouth of the Congo. No one had before known much about this river. And we now see that if there can be two pieces of railroad built around the cataracts, and steamboats placed in the deep, wide river, and on the great lakes, it will no longer be very difficult to reach the middle of Africa. Already there are steamboats on Stanley Pool and on the Lakes.

LESSON XIX.—What large river in Egypt? Why should it be remembered? What kind of a country does the Nile flow through? What happens to the Nile every year? How is grain planted? Why are canals made? What animals live in the Nile? What other large river in Africa? What is said of the Congo?

WESTERN HEMISPHERE



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

Now we have the two halves of the globe again, with the mountains and rivers this time. Which way do the mountains extend in the western hemisphere? Which way do most of the chains of Eurasia extend? Why are the lines that represent the rivers so crooked? Is there a brook or a river in your town? Does it flow far in a straight line? Why not? Where are the lines for the rivers broader, at the beginning or at the end? Why is a river broader at one end than at the other? See if the lines that represent rivers often cross the marks that stand for mountains. Why not? In North America what are the great ranges of mountains? Which shut in the Mississippi basin on the east? Which on the west? What is the great range of mountains in South America? Which coast is it near?

EASTERN HEMISPHERE



III. THE WORLD.

On which side is the great river? What is its name? Do the same things grow all along the course of the Mississippi? Why not? How is it with the Amazon? Why? What smaller range of mountains is in the eastern part of South America? What in the eastern part of North America? Where are the mountains in Africa? Look at the roundish spots which show where the Nile begins. What are they? Where are the highest mountains in Asia? These are the very highest in all the world. What rivers rise here? Why are the rivers that run into the Arctic ocean of so little use? What is the prettiest river in Europe? Where does it rise? See what river in Europe looks the longest. Put your finger on the place to show the volcano that once did so much harm.

LESSON XX.

RIVERS IN ASIA.

THERE are three large rivers in the northern part of Asia,—the Lena, Yenisei, and Obe; but as these all flow into the Arctic Ocean, through a cold, dreary country, they are of little use.

There are also three rivers flowing east into the Pacific,—the Amoor, Yang-tse-Kiang, and Hoang Ho. Very queer names, you will say; and it is a queer country they run through, crowded with queer people. You will hear more of them by and by.

Running into the bays of the Indian Ocean are several other large rivers, some of them rushing down from the Himalaya Mountains at a furious rate. Of these the Ganges is the largest.

In the south-western part of Asia, there are two rivers that you will often read of,—the Tigris and Euphrates. There are not only cities now on their banks, with caravans passing to and fro, but on the plains around are ruins of old cities built long, long ago.

LESSON XX.—What three rivers in the north of Asia? What ones run east into the Pacific? What other rivers in Asia?



LESSON XXI.

GRAND DIVISIONS DESCRIBED.

NORTH AMERICA.—The broadest part of North America lies about the Northern Ocean, and it narrows down almost to a point toward the equator; so that most of the

countries are either very cold or mild and pleasant. Only a small part is in the hot zone.

The Rocky Mountains run from north to south through the western part ; and, in the east, there are lower, smaller mountains, called Alleghanies.

RIVERS. — The Mackenzie River, and other smaller ones, flow toward the north into the Arctic waters.

The St. Lawrence, Hudson, and several other quite large rivers flow into the Atlantic Ocean.

The Mississippi, with its large branches, runs south into the Gulf of Mexico.

The Columbia, Colorado, and some smaller rivers, run west into the Pacific Ocean.

Several of the largest lakes in the world are in North America, — Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and, farther north, Great Slave and Great Bear Lakes.

Most of the northern part of North America belongs to the English, and is called British America. Alaska, in the north-west corner, settled by the Russians, was in 1867 bought by the United States. Greenland, on the north-east, belongs to the Danes. These countries are very cold, and many parts are covered with snow. The middle part of the continent is our own, containing the United States and Territories, and is the most pleasant part. Mexico is in the southern part and reaches down into the hot zone.

SOUTH AMERICA. — The coast of South America is not cut into by the water, like that of North America ; and there are few large bays.

The larger part of South America lies about the equator: therefore most of the countries are hot, and always

green. The southern point reaches to the Southern Ocean, and is cold and dreary. Vessels passing round this point are sometimes dashed to pieces in the storms and by blocks of floating ice.

The high, long chain of the Andes Mountains runs along the west coast; and in the east there are some short, low chains, called the Brazilian Mountains.

There are three large rivers in South America, running through great, flat plains.

The Orinoco is in the north, and winds about, through its broad, grassy plains, into the Atlantic.

The Amazon is one of the largest rivers in the world, and flows from the Andes, through many hundred miles of forest land, into the Atlantic.

The La Plata is farther south, and also runs into the Atlantic.

South America was found by the Spaniards. People from Spain and Portugal came over long ago, and settled in different places. At first, they formed colonies; but, after a while, these became independent countries, or states. The people still speak Spanish or Portuguese, just as we speak the same language that our great-great-grandfathers brought from England to North America.

The largest cities are Rio Janeiro and Buenos Ayres on the east coast, Lima near the Pacific, Valparaiso on the west coast; and among the mountains, Bogota, Caracas, and Quito.

LESSON XXI. — Where is the largest mountain range in America? What mountains? What rivers? What lakes? What countries? Give the whole account of North America. How is South America bounded? What bays and gulfs? Where is the broadest part of South America? What mountains? What rivers? How was South

America settled? What are the largest cities? Give the whole account of South America.

LESSON XXII.

GRAND DIVISIONS DESCRIBED.

THE chains of mountains in Europe cannot be so long as those of America; but there are more of them. The Ural Mountains are between Russia and Asia, the Apennines run through Italy, the Pyrenees are between France and Spain, and the Alps—the highest of all the mountains—run through the southern part of the continent.

The Volga and some other large rivers flow through Russia. The beautiful river Rhine and the Elbe run north-west into the North Sea. The great city of Paris is on the River Seine, in France. The River Rhone is also in France and the Thames in England. The Danube runs east, through the south of Europe, into the Black Sea.

There are many beautiful lakes among the mountains; but they are quite small.

Europe is the smallest grand division. None of it is in the hot zone; but the greater part is warm enough to be very pleasant.

The eastern half is taken up by Russia. The other principal countries are Turkey, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, Spain, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. England, Scotland, and Ireland are always considered as countries of Europe, though really they are two islands off the west coast.

London and Paris are among the greatest cities of the world. Rome is famous for its paintings and statues, and for the ruins of splendid buildings of old times. Naples is a city of Italy, near the volcano Vesuvius ; and Venice, in the northern part, is built on little islands in the water. Vienna is a large and fine city of Austria-Hungary. Madrid is the capital of Spain, Edinburgh, a fine city, of Scotland, and Dublin of Ireland. St. Petersburg is in the northern part of Russia, and Moscow is farther south.

There are four great mountain chains in Asia, running across from east to west. The highest and most southern chain is the Himalaya. The Altai Mountains are farthest north. Besides these, there are some short chains in the south-west ; and the Ural Mountains run between Asia and Europe. (See map following page 161.)

Three large rivers, the Lena, Ob, and Yenisei, flow north through the great plain of Siberia. The Yang-tse-Kiang and Hoang-Ho flow eastward, through China, into the Pacific Ocean ; and running southward into the Indian Ocean are the Ganges, Indus, Tigris, and Euphrates.

All the northern part of Asia is a great plain, divided from the European plain by the Ural Mountains. It belongs to the Russians, and is sometimes called Russia in Asia, instead of Siberia. The middle part of Asia is a large desert of sand, shut in by mountains, where tribes of wandering Tartars live. China is in the eastern part ; and Hindostan, or India, is south of the Himalaya Mountains. England governs India ; and there is a great deal of trade between the two countries. Arabia is a large peninsula in the south-west corner of Asia, where it joins Africa.

Palestine, or the Holy Land, lies along the east coast

of the Mediterranean Sea, north of Arabia ; and all through that part of Asia are places spoken of in the Bible.

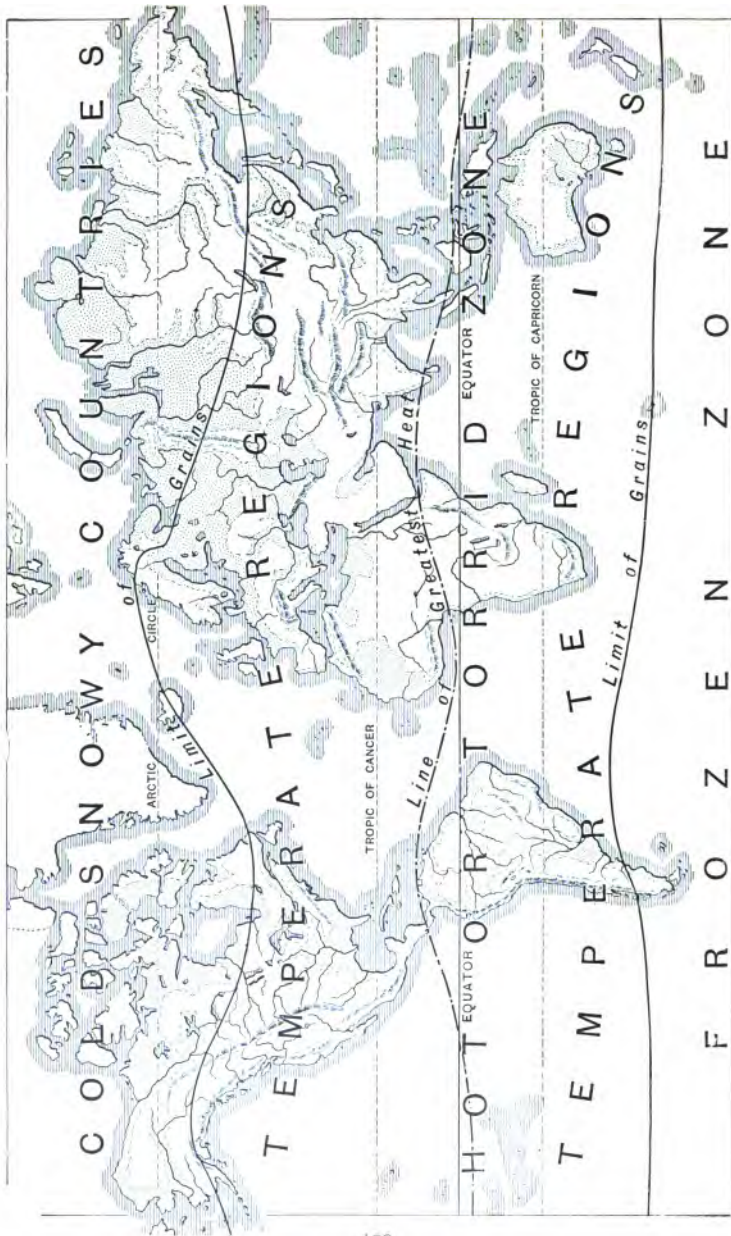
The city of Jerusalem is there ; and north-east, in Turkey, is the beautiful city of Damascus. Mecca is in Arabia. Calcutta is a large city in India. Peking and Canton are Chinese cities.

The northern part of Africa belongs to Arabs, or Moors. Egypt, one of the oldest countries in the world, is in the north-east. The Negro tribes live along the east and west coasts ; and the southern point belongs to the English.

The interior of Africa is not very well known. There is an immense desert towards the north ; and travellers every little while tell something about new forests, lakes, rivers, and tribes of negroes.

There are two or three large rivers. The Nile runs through the north-eastern part of Africa into the Mediterranean. The Niger and the Congo flow into the Atlantic ; and the Zambesi into the Indian Ocean.

LESSON XXII.—What mountains in Europe? What rivers? What countries? What are the largest cities? What mountains in Asia? What rivers? What of the different countries? Where are some of the cities? What mountains in Africa? What rivers? What is said of Africa? Give the whole account of Europe. Of Asia? Of Africa?



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

IV. THE WORLD.

IN this map the dotted shading represents low lands. Now where are the high table-lands of Africa? Here it is that most of the rivers of Africa rise, as you see. Just so is it in Asia. In North America high land separates the rivers that run north from the sources of the Mississippi. Where is the great plain of Eurasia? See the two curved lines, one crossing the upper and the other the lower part of this map. These lines show how far north and south grains will grow. There is about the same degree of heat and cold along their whole length. The broken curved line in the middle shows where there is the greatest heat. By this you will see that we cannot always tell just how hot a country is by its distance from the equator. Many other things bring about heat and cold. Some day you will learn what they are. You will like to make some voyages and journeys on this map. See if you can call all the countries, mountains and rivers by name, without looking on the other maps.

PART THIRD.

LESSON I.

COUNTRIES AND NATIONS.

YOU know that in all these different lands on the surface of the earth there live many millions of people. These people must find food for themselves, and clothes, and often comforts and pleasures; but, if you will think a moment, you will see that they cannot all have the same kind of clothes and food; each one will need what is suitable for him in his own home. What kind of clothes should you think were needed in the frozen lands near the north pole? Warm clothes, you say. True; and the very best thing for keeping one warm is fur. You often see ladies wear fur tippets and muffs here in the winter. God has ordered every thing rightly; so that the animals in such lands have fur-covered skins, some strong and coarse, others soft and fine. And of these skins the people make coats, caps, and boots, to keep their bodies from the biting frost. But, in hot countries, such clothes would be very uncomfortable; and there men soon learn to make something light and thin to wear.

It is just so with food. Where the weather is cold, the blood must be heated by eating strong food; and those

people who wear furs live altogether on meat, eating quantities of fat from whales, seals, and other animals that live there. But, if persons in hot climates eat much meat, they soon sicken and die. God has given them grain, vegetables, and fruits to live upon : and the hotter the country, the more cool juicy fruits there are ; so that the very poorest people may have them.

In different lands, there is also different work for men to do ; and they have very different habits and ways of living. Very far north, in the cold, they pass their days in hunting such animals as are needed constantly both for food and clothes. Each man must have skin coats, boots, caps, and beds for himself, his wife, and his children ; for they all dress much alike. And he must also get plenty of meat for them to eat, and oil to burn in their lamps. Men who are born near the sea will be apt to fish, or to sail over the waters trading. These love the great blue ocean. People among the mountains will keep goats and sheep for their wool ; or will be miners, and dig for iron, lead, gold or coal. Those in rich, level lands plant grain to make flour or meal for themselves and others. Cotton and flax grow in some countries, and are sold to make cloth for thousands of people. Everywhere men must do something to live ; and what they do will depend a good deal, you see, on the country they happen to live in. And they all help each other by exchanging the things found in the different parts of the earth.

There is another reason why people are very different : it is that some have learned more than others. Savages, or ignorant people, who have no books, churches, schools, factories, music, or pictures, care for nothing but eating, hunting or fighting, and only know how to make a few

clothes of skins, or plain, coarse cloth. But men often go on learning more and more, finding out one thing after another, until they can build large, fine houses of brick or stone, instead of little huts, to live in. The cotton spinners improve constantly, until we have fine muslins and pretty calicoes, instead of coarse, plain cloth. Thousands of beautiful as well as useful things are made; and children are taught to read, sing, and dance. All this learning is called *civilization*, and such people are said to be *civilized*; but, if they know nothing of all these things, they are *savage* or *barbarous*.

All the people living together, speaking the same language, and having the same habits, make up what we call a *nation*. The part of the world that belongs to any one nation is called its *country* and no other people has a right to it. Every country and nation has its own name, and you will find a number of countries in each of the great continents. Some of these countries, or states, are large and powerful; others are very small.

LESSON I. — What must people find for themselves? Why do people have different food and clothes? What kinds are proper for cold places? For hot places? How does the work differ in different lands? What is the difference between civilized people and savages? What is a nation? A country?

LESSON II.

GOVERNMENT.

WHAT happens when a man in this town, or in any other town, steals, or kills people, or does any bad thing? He is put in jail, you say. Yes; but whose business is it to see that he is caught and punished? If each of us tried to punish every one who troubles us, there would be nothing but quarrelling all the time, and the strongest would have their way against the weakest.

People found out long ago that they could not live happily, or work quietly, or improve in any way, except by joining together and protecting one another, agreeing to obey certain rules or laws good for all. But there must be persons to find out what laws are good for all, and to see that no man breaks them. So, while merchants are buying and selling, and doctors visiting the sick, and carpenters building houses, some men are chosen to take care that no one shall be disturbed, and to find out the best ways of making the country rich and pleasant to live in. This is called *governing* a country or nation; and each nation has its own way of governing. In some, such as our own, the highest ruler is called a *president*, and is chosen by the people. Some countries are ruled by *kings* and *queens*, who are not chosen by the people. The same man is king as long as he lives; and after him his son must be the next king, whether he is liked or not. For this reason it has often happened that the rulers of a nation, instead of being wise, good men, as they should be, have been bad or silly, and so have made their people poor and unhappy. In old times, kings were more powerful than they are now; but people have learned better, and do not give them so much power.

There is still one part of the world where the kings, who are called *sultans* or *caliphs*, can have pretty much their own way. In some wild, uncivilized countries, the different tribes have *chiefs*, who lead them in fighting, which is their chief occupation.

Besides these great rulers of nations, there are many others who help the kings or presidents, — judges, governors, and other officers.

LESSON II. — Why must all nations have a government? What is the ruler of our country called? What names have rulers in other countries? Tell what you can of them.

LESSON III.

ABOUT GREECE.

LONG, long ago, when there were no white men in America, no towns, no roads, only the wild Indians hunting deer and buffalo, and when people in the Old World had no idea that there was another continent on the other side of the world, there were two nations in the south of Europe who already had palaces, fine temples, roads, and cities, and lived in great power and splendor. These people were the Greeks and Romans; and you may find their countries in the south of Europe, almost surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea. The home of the Greeks was Greece, and never was there a more beautiful home. The whole country is cut up by small ridges of mountains or hills. Charming valleys lie between, watered by many little rivers, and shaded with groves of grey, old olive trees, which bear the little fruit that makes sweet oil.

This was before Christ was born on the earth; and these

old-time Greeks were not Christians, but worshipped a great many different gods and goddesses. They built temples for these gods, and made statues, that is, human forms, out of marble, to represent them. These gods are most commonly known by their *Roman* names. The greatest of all was named *Jupiter*; and there were many statues and temples for him all over the land. *Neptune* was the god of the sea; and, when men were going to sea, they offered a sacrifice, and made gifts to him, that they might have a safe voyage. There was a god of war called *Mars*, and soldiers prayed to him before a battle. If they conquered their enemies, they often brought rich gifts of gold cups or vases, and other things, for the temple. Even poor people offered such gifts as they could; for they imagined that this was goodness, and many of them really believed that the gods could enjoy the presents. But I rather think the priests, or people who took care of the temples, had the gifts; since we know there were really no such gods. *Vulcan* was the god of fire: and this is why burning mountains were called volcanoes. The people thought he made swords and armor for the gods.

It was a strange idea of the Greeks, that their gods loved, hated, married, and fought just like human beings. Even this sort of worship made them less rude than many nations around them. They loved beautiful things, such as pictures, statues, fine buildings, etc., more than the surrounding nations. Many of their statues have been carried away to other countries and are the most beautiful that have ever been seen.

The Greeks often had public games or races in honor of some god, when people came from every part of the land

to the sacred groves; and there the most active young men ran races on foot, or in chariots drawn by four or six horses. Those who won were crowned with wreaths of myrtle leaves, and verses were sung in their praise. The chief of these were called the Olympic games, held in honor of their great Jupiter. They were held at Olympia, in the western part of Greece. Here was a beautiful temple which has been for hundreds of years in ruins. Not long since, people who had read about this temple and its fine statues, wanted to dig down and see if there were any of those things buried in the earth. They found remains of the temple, and statues of wonderful beauty. The Greeks are no longer willing to have the beautiful things of their fine old time carried away, but they let people make casts or copies of them in plaster, which look quite like the real marbles. These are sent to all the most civilized countries. You will sometime read the stories about the brave, beauty-loving, song-making Greeks of the old times.

They were very particular about their children. Sons were brought up strictly; taught to be brave, and to love their country more than life. They were made to practise running, boxing, and leaping, that their limbs might grow strong and active. But the best of all was the great respect they were taught to feel for their parents and aged persons. Young lads were allowed to sit in company with old men, to hear wise words, and to learn to rule the country; but they never thought of speaking, or getting in the way. Often the wise men taught in the streets; and some of those lessons have been kept safely ever since, so that now our own boys learn them.

But what has become of these Greeks? There is the

country, with the same hills, the same blue sky and sea, the same olive groves, and the same mild, pleasant air, but not the same people. People still live there, and they are called Greeks; but we hear little of them. The fine, brave men of old times began at last to quarrel among themselves; and then they were conquered, their beautiful temples were destroyed, and many of their statues were carried off; and now their glory and power are gone.



ATHENS AND ITS TEMPLES.

You must find Athens on the map; for that was their great city, and strangers visit it to see the parts of fine buildings still standing.

You see that Greece is almost cut into two parts by the sea running up into the land. Just on this narrow neck of land is another large city, once rich and gay. This is Corinth; and you will remember it, for there are two letters in our New Testament, which St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians after he had been there, and persuaded some of them to be Christians.

As the Greeks had so small a country, they often went away in companies, as the English have done since, and made new towns for themselves all along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.

LESSON IV. — Who were the old Greeks and Romans? What is said of Greece? What was the religion of the Greeks? Mention some of their gods. What games had they? What has been done at Olympia in our time? What is said of their children? What of Greece in our time? Where is Athens? What do you know about Corinth? Where did the Greeks build other cities?

LESSON IV.

ABOUT ITALY.

WEST of Greece is a long, narrow country, somewhat in the shape of a boot, which is called Italy. On the west coast of this Italy is the city of Rome; and there lived the Romans, who spoke the Latin language, that is still taught in our schools.

This city was begun so very long ago, that it is not easy to get the exact history of it; and you will read all manner of stories about it, quite as wonderful as fairy tales. Certain it is, that this was the home of bold, strong men, who thought fighting the thing best worth doing; and so they went on making slaves of their neighbors, and taking towns, until they got pretty much all the land that lies around the Mediterranean Sea and much more besides. As this was most of the earth then known, Rome was called the mistress of the world; and the Romans became proud

boasters, thinking everything and everybody were made for their use. All this time they had not cared so much for beautiful things as the Greeks, and thought most about war. Many kings of small tribes paid them large sums of money every year; and thousands of men and women of different nations were slaves to them.

At last when they became so rich and powerful, living luxuriously, and wearing fine clothes, they did not fight so well; and the young nobles, instead of loving their country as their grandfathers had done, thought only of getting gold to spend, and of abusing the people.

The emperors who ruled the people could not rule themselves, and were often very bad men. Some of these emperors were so cruel and wicked, that they were more like wild beasts than men, and sometimes killed their brothers, friends, or even parents.

The people at last got tired of such doings; and the soldiers began to take things into their own hands, and appoint the rulers.

At last, the conquered nations, finding out that the terrible Romans did not fight so well as formerly, refused to pay more money, and took back many of their towns. And, worse than all, down rushed whole nations of rude, bold savages from the north of Europe and Asia. They overran Italy, destroying its cities, with their palaces, libraries and books; and now the Latin language is not spoken. But it took very many years for all this to happen; and in that time there were many wise and good Romans,—brave generals, good teachers, doctors, and writers. Many of their books have been kept, and are still read.

The Romans had many of the same gods as the Greeks, with temples, statues, and festivals.

The people in Italy are now called Italians, and speak another language. They are not so powerful as the old Romans were.



AN ITALIAN LAKE.

Travellers like to visit Italy to see the ruins of the old palaces and temples that are still standing; and many of the finest statues and pictures in the world are in Italy, for the Italians were great painters and sculptors. There are other reasons why people from distant lands like to go to Italy. It is one of the most beautiful countries in the world. The weather is mild and pleasant. In the north there are charming valleys with lakes, and lovely little

streams. Along the hillsides, among the lakes and woods, are handsome country houses and gardens, besides pretty villages, and old, gray castles and towns with walls far up on the cliffs.

There are many large, beautiful cities. One of these is Florence; and on the west coast you will find a city called

Naples, built on one of the most beautiful bays in the world. Just in sight of Naples is the volcano of Vesuvius, whose eruptions have often destroyed towns and farms around. It is almost always smoking, and often throws out ashes and stones. You will remember we have already spoken of two cities which were



A STREET IN VENICE.

covered up by ashes or streams of burning lava from this volcano, in the time of the old Romans.

In the northern part of Italy is a strange city called Venice, built in the midst of water, on many little islands. A great

many of the streets are of water ; and, instead of carriages, people use little boats, called *gondolas*. It would seem strange to us to sail up and down these water-streets ; and very charming, on a moonlight night, to be gliding smoothly along while the boatmen sing as they row.

LESSON IV. — Where is Italy ? What is said of Rome ? What kind of people were the old Romans ? What of some of their emperors ? What happened to the Romans at last ? What of their books and religion ? What are the people of Italy now called ? What is said of them ? Why do travellers like to visit Italy ? Where is Florence ? Naples ? Venice ? Vesuvius ?



LESSON V.

ABOUT FRANCE.

NORTH-WEST of Italy is a large, fine country, that you often hear of : for it belongs to the French people, and we have a great deal of commerce with them. Our boys and girls study French in school, learning a few words of the language that comes so naturally to the children in France.

We visit them, read their books, follow their fashions, and trade with them. You would never guess how many things that you see almost every day have been brought across the ocean from this far-off France.

Do you not often see in the shops muslins, chintz, woollens and silks, covered with bunches of tiny, gay-colored flowers, or charming little vines, or graceful leaves ? It is almost certain that the prettiest and finest were made in France ; for the people there seem to have such beautiful fancies, and know how to match colors so nicely, that ladies like their articles best.

There will probably be in the same stores long rows of flat, paper boxes full of beautiful embroideries, generally called "French work." While the French factories are making yards of muslins and chintz, hundreds of poor French women, in the narrow, dirty streets of large towns, are busy working beautiful vines and clusters of flowers on fine cambric.

In another row of boxes, there are, perhaps, soft kid gloves and handsome fans. French gloves and French fans are liked the best everywhere. Most of our silks and much of our elegant jewelry come from France. Besides all these things, our finest wines, perfumes, and articles of the toilet, are made there.

On far the greater part of French goods is found the name "Paris," which is the great city of France. And a great city it is; one of the largest and best known in the world. There are so many streets, so crowded, and so long, that you could never walk through half of them. There are grand old churches, public gardens with flowers and fountains where people walk or ride, large halls where beautiful pictures are hung, and museums where all sorts of fine and rare things are kept. There is also a place called the "Garden of Plants," where they have gathered beautiful trees and flowers and strange animals from all parts of the world. There is a very large cage like a house for the monkeys, and the children like to watch their funny ways.

The houses in Paris are, of course, built several stories high; and it is the custom for three or four families to live in one house. Often on the ground-floor there are shops; on the next floor live the wealthy gentlemen; above these, the families of merchants, tradespeople, etc.; and in the garrets, workmen and poor sewing-women. The great

staircase going from the bottom to the top of the house is like a street, all the different lodgers having to pass up and down.

You will find Paris on the River Seine, and then you may look for Bordeaux on the western coast. It is from Bordeaux that claret and boxes of prunes are sent.

Marseilles is the chief seaport on the Mediterranean.

The greater part of France is rich and beautiful, with hills and pretty valleys, small rivers watering the land, and handsome cities and villages scattered over all the country.

It is pleasant to see the vineyards on the sunny slopes, with the ripe grapes hanging in clusters on every vine. The grape-vines are not spread out as we see them in gardens here ; but whole fields are planted in rows ; and the vines are twined around poles stuck in the ground a little distance apart, so that the grapes may turn to the sun and be easily gathered. At a certain time of the year, when the grapes are ripe, all the country people turn out, — men, women, and children, — and have a great merry-making, gathering the grapes to make wine. This is called the *vintage* ; and you may be sure the young people look forward to it with longing hearts, as well they may, for indeed we should enjoy the fun ourselves. Early in the morning, people are seen hurrying from farms and villages with large baskets ; young girls meet together, laughing and chatting as they go ; old men lean on their sticks, and hobble out to see the sport ; and children run about dancing and shouting. The short, bright-colored skirts and jaunty little hats of the girls look gay among the vines ; and every face is smiling. The grapes are gathered in baskets, and emptied into great heavy wagons, that go rolling along the roads, piled up with rich purple

bunches, until they reach the place where they are to be crushed. There the great, quivering, dripping load is toppled over into a huge tub, or trough; the juice is pressed out of the grapes to make wine.

France has long been one of the important nations of the world, and you will hereafter learn much that is interesting of its history.

LESSON V.—What country north-west of Italy? What have we to do with France? What is its great city? What is said of it? Of its houses? Where is Bordeaux? What comes from there? Where is Marseilles? What is said of the vineyards? Tell about the vintage. How is wine made?

LESSON VI.

SPAIN.

You see on the map a narrow passage of water separating the south-west corner of Europe from Africa. This is the Strait of Gibraltar; and on both coasts rise huge cliffs of rock, making a great gate, through which vessels sail from the Atlantic Ocean into the Mediterranean Sea.

Long ago, some of the Moors, or people in the north of Africa, crossed this strait to look for a new home. They did not have to go far; for, just where they landed on the coast of Europe, they found a beautiful valley, with hills, plains, groves of trees, and an abundance of little streams running into one of the prettiest rivers in the world. The climate was mild, never too hot nor too cold, and suited for oranges, olives, and many other fruits.

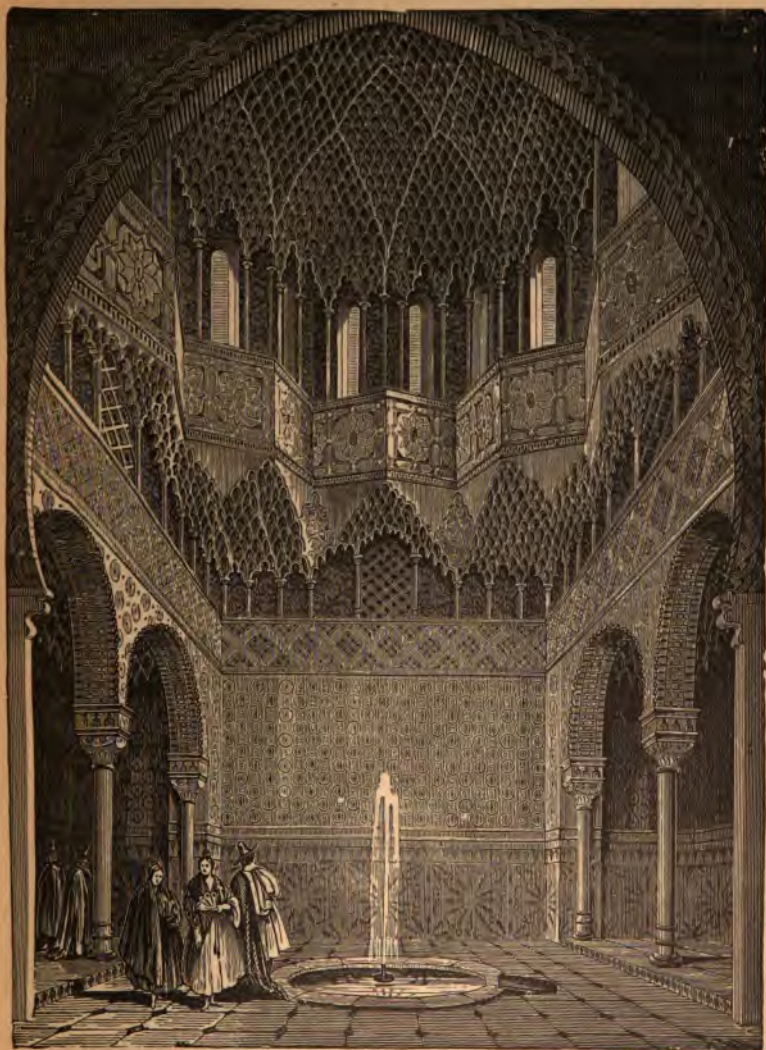
Here they settled in the southern part of the country which we now call Spain. You will like to learn about

these Moors one of these days, — how they were the very people to enjoy beautiful things of all kinds, and went to work to make that pleasant country still more beautiful. Soon groves of olive and orange trees, roads, towns, and gardens, appeared over all the land. They built a large city called Granada, and in it were magnificent palaces. One of these, called the Alhambra, is standing to this day. Its walls and ceilings were covered with stucco that looked like fine carving and was beautifully colored and gilded, and the lower part of the walls was covered with tiles; while the gardens were made delightful with fountains, fragrant shrubs, and gay birds. Here the rich, brave Moors lived happily with their wives and daughters, who were often very beautiful.

But they were years in spreading through the country; and then the people north of them, who were mostly Christians, became more and more powerful and drove them back to the south again, till at last nearly all the country was governed by the Spanish rulers, Ferdinand and Isabella, and the Moors had only a small but pleasant part in the south.

This king and queen did not like the idea of having such a proud, powerful people as the Moors in the same country with them, especially in the best part of it. And, besides, they thought it dreadful to be so near such *infidels*, as they called them; for the Moors did not believe in Christ, but had a religion of their own.

The Spanish lords and gentlemen, or *knights* as they were called in those days, were always finding excuses for skirmishing with the Moors; and at last Ferdinand and Isabella went down with a great army, and, after much fighting, conquered them; and, long afterward, they were



A HALL IN THE ALHAMBRA.

driven from the country. There are still many stories among the people who live in the old ruined Moorish halls, of the times when the beautiful infidel girls were heard singing behind the high walls of their gardens, and the Moorish knights ruled the land.

This was many years ago, and Spain is not so powerful a country now.

We have good reason to remember Isabella, as she sent out the men who first sailed across the Atlantic, and found the new continent of America. The Spaniards came over afterward, and settled in parts of South America, as well as in the south of North America; and in those places the people still speak Spanish.

The rest of Spain is not so fair and pleasant as the southern part; and much of the country is bare and mountainous, so that often, for miles, a stranger will find it rather bleak and gloomy. Things do not generally look so bright and cheerful as in France.

Madrid, where the kings live, is a large city in the middle part of Spain. You will find Granada in the south, and also the Guadalquivir River, that flows through the pleasant land of the old Moors.

Salamanca is a large city, famous for schools.

It seems as if all the Spanish peninsula should belong to one people; but there is a small country on the west coast, called Portugal.

The Portuguese, having so little land at home, have always been ready to sail about the world, and make new colonies wherever they could. They are excellent sailors.

Lisbon, the capital, is a large city, which was once almost destroyed by a terrible earthquake.

LESSON VI.—Where is the strait of Gibraltar? What people crossed over from Africa into Spain long ago? What kind of country did they find? What became of the Moors? What reason have *we* to remember Queen Isabella? Where did the Spaniards first settle in the New World? What of the rest of Spain? What cities? What small country west of Spain? For what are the Portuguese noted? What of Lisbon?

LESSON VII.

ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND, OR THE BRITISH ISLES.

WE have already learned something of Great Britain. It is a little island world in itself; but it is always called one of the countries of Europe, because it is so near the continent, that only a few hours' sail across the channel brings one to France or Holland. By the shortest way, you can go over to France in an hour and a half.

England, Scotland, and Wales are one island. It looks so small, a mere speck by the side of the great countries in Asia, that it is difficult to understand how so many large cities, fields and forests, lakes and rivers, find room there, and how so many thousands of busy people are living and working there every day.

Much of the land belongs to a few rich people; and one nobleman often owns a number of farms, or a whole village full of houses, which he rents to the men who work the ground.

On the west side of England is Wales, which is quite wild and beautiful, with hills, rocks, lakes, and streams; for it is too rough to be all made into fields.

All through England are villages and railroads running from one great city to another ; such busy cities, where so many hands must find work, and so many mouths be fed !

There is Manchester, with its tall factory chimneys smoking, its steam engines roaring, its wheels whirling, and looms clattering. To Manchester are carried many bales of cotton from America ; and there thousands of men, women, and little children, work busily in the factories, weaving yards upon yards of calico and muslin to be sent abroad to other countries.

There is Sheffield, where knives, forks, scissors, and all sorts of steel things, are made ; for near these cities there is plenty of iron, and also plenty of coal for the hot fires that make the steam for the engines.

Liverpool is the city at which most of the ships and steamers from America stop, and where there is all the time a crowd of vessels loading and unloading.

But the largest city of England and of the world is London. It has fine public buildings and churches, palaces and a parliament-house. Here the queen holds her court, and the lords and ladies live in splendor ; while many poor, miserable people, in the far-off, dirty streets, find it hard to get anything to eat.

There was a time when Scotland did not belong to England, but had kings of its own ; and there was many a year of fighting and quarreling, until Queen Elizabeth of England died without any children, and the King of Scotland, who was next of kin, became King of England.

Scotland, as you see, is north of England, and has rather a colder climate. It is far more hilly ; and the northern part is so wild and mountainous, that it has always been called the Highlands. Many people go there in the sum-

mer to see the beautiful mountains and lakes. Have you ever heard of the Highlanders, with their dresses of bright plaid and their black-plumed caps? They were a bold, hardy people, gathered into different families, or *clans*, governed by chiefs. The clans were named after their chiefs: as, "Clan Campbell," "Clan Stuart," etc.;



A LAKE IN SCOTLAND.

and each clan had its own plaid, so that every man was known by his dress. It was a long time before they would have anything to do with the English and the more peaceable Lowlanders. I should never end if I began to tell you all the stories that have been written of them; about William Wallace and Bruce, their great chiefs, their fights, and the tales and songs made about them.

The most noted city is Edinburgh, one of the most beautiful old cities of Europe. The picture on the next page shows some of the most interesting parts of it.

Ireland was conquered by the English a long time ago; and now Scotland, England, Ireland, and Wales all form one country.

The climate of Ireland is mild, and many parts of this

island are very beautiful. The small farmers rent their lands from the noblemen, and often have poor cabins, ragged clothes, and hungry-looking faces; but these people are always gay, kind-hearted, and generous, and ready to help one another.



EDINBURGH.

There are many fine castles, and large, busy cities. Cork is the chief seaport. Dublin is a large, handsome city, built on the shore of a very beautiful bay. Belfast is a city where much linen is made.

The largest river is the Shannon.

LESSON VII.—What is Great Britain called? What is said of England? For what is Manchester famous? For what Sheffield? Where is Liverpool? What is the great city of England? What is said of Scotland? Where is Edinburgh? What is told of Ireland? Where is Belfast? Dublin? What is the largest river?

LESSON VIII.

MIDDLE EUROPE.

THERE are other countries in the middle of Europe, that you can learn more about by and by. Austria is one, Germany another; and there is Switzerland, a little country up in the mountains, where the people have always been so bold, hardy, and free, in their mountain homes, that they would have no king. And though, every now and then, the neighboring nations have tried to lay hold of this little State, the Swiss have fought so hard, killed so many men, and made such a troublesome job of it for the strangers, that they have thought at last such a small land of rocks and snow-topped mountains would cost too dear. So the Swiss still live in the midst of their glaciers, their pine forests and mountain lakes.

A portion of Germany is flat, and a part lies among the smaller ridges of the Alps. Here is the Black Forest; and here are many of those pretty little villages where the wood carvers and shepherd girls live of whom we have already spoken.

Through this country runs the beautiful River Rhine, with its old castles, vineyards, and large, handsome cities.

The Cologne water you often see is named from one of these cities where the best of it is made.

In a large city called Hamburg, excellent pianos are made, for the Germans are fond of music, and much of the finest has been written by them. Nuremberg is an interesting old city.



NUREMBURG.

The prettiest toys in the world are also made in Germany. There are cities where hundreds of people live by making these toys, to send off for the children in England and America.

There is scarcely a country where they have such pleasant Christmas holidays. In all the villages in the land, the bells ring joyously Christmas morning; and

the little children are gathered in the churches to sing hymns to the Christ-child, and make their little prayers that they may become like Jesus, pure and holy.

In the great houses, there are always Christmas trees for the dear children, hung thick with sugar plums, and an abundance of those beautiful playthings that are made in the German cities. Great baskets are packed full of tea, sugar, cakes, bread, and meat, as well as warm flannel jackets, and good, strong gowns, to be sent to all the poor in the neighborhood. Little gifts are also prepared for the village children, who often gather in the evening for a dance.

Holland is a flat country on the coast ; and the land is so low, that the water from the sea sometimes overflows it for miles, destroying fields, houses, and even whole villages. But the people build up a sort of wall, called a *dike*, to keep the water back ; and unless these dikes break down, which sometimes happens, the country is safe.

Holland is the home of the Dutch ; and they are very fond of sailing and skating. Market women often go miles on their skates. There are many canals in Holland and families live in their boats on the canals, just as we do in our houses. The boats, as well as the houses, are kept very neat. Perhaps because they have not a very large country at home, and because they live so much in sight of the sea, the children talk of ships and trading, until each boy has a fancy to visit the strange lands he hears of, or to trade for himself. In this way, many of them become sailors before they are twelve years old.

Amsterdam is a large city, to which many of our own vessels go.

You will see that the River Rhine passes through Holland on its way to the sea ; and many fine, tall pines are brought down on its waters from the Black Forest to make masts for Dutch vessels.

Denmark is a peninsula running north from Germany ; and north of Denmark is a long, wide strip of land, reaching down from the Arctic Ocean, and nearly cut off from the rest of Europe by the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Bothnia. This peninsula, besides being cold, is very rough and hilly ; for the Dofrafield Mountains run through it from north to south, dividing it into two long, narrow countries called Norway and Sweden. On the coast of Norway are deep fiords, or narrow gulfs running up into

the land. The shore is high and steep, and the little villages are built in among the rocks. The people here are fishermen, and go up and down the coast for herring, or far off for whales and large fish. Some, too, go into the forests in the winter and cut down the trees, letting them float down the streams to the coast. And there are little farms, too, with an upland pasture to which the cattle go in summer. They like so much to go, that when the season comes, if they are not watched, they will scamper off by themselves. The oldest daughter goes up to take care of the dairy.

LESSON VIII. — What are some of the countries of Middle Europe? What is said of Switzerland? Where is Germany? What river runs through it? Where is Cologne-water made? What of Hamburg? What is the said of Christmas in Germany? What kind of a country is Holland? What of the people? Where is Amsterdam? What is Denmark? Where are Norway and Sweden?

LESSON IX.

RUSSIA.

WE have already gone over quite a number of countries; but there is still half of Europe left, and this all belongs to one nation. It is called Russia, and is mostly a vast plain, with the Arctic Ocean on the north and Asia on the east.

You can see that the climate of the greater part must be very cold, and the rivers often frozen. Even the Volga, that great river running south into the Caspian Sea, is blocked up with ice part of the year. Snow is on the ground so long, that the Russians use sleighs a great deal,



A RUSSIAN VILLAGE.

instead of carriages ; and the country is generally so flat, that they can dash along at a swift pace. Wrapped in thick, warm furs, and drawn by several horses smoothly over the snow, one would not wish a better way of travelling.

In the south, some parts of this country are pleasant, and produce grain of different kinds. Near the Caspian Sea, it is a level country without hut or stone, like a western prairie. The Russians call this a *steppe*. On these steppes roam a wandering people who have no houses, and live wholly by their flocks and herds. When the flocks have eaten off all the grass in one place, they take up their tents and move with their families to another. On the steppe you may see now and then a train of camels, moving slowly along with stately step, or a horseman on the distant horizon. The north of Russia, toward the Arctic Ocean, is dreary, excepting in the short summer. The land is so flat, that it is often wet and marshy, and half the year the ground is covered with snow.

You would not expect to find many towns or people in such a region ; but there are both. On the little gulf running up from the Baltic Sea is a large, handsome city, which is named St. Petersburg, after a great king, or *czar*, as the Russians call their ruler.

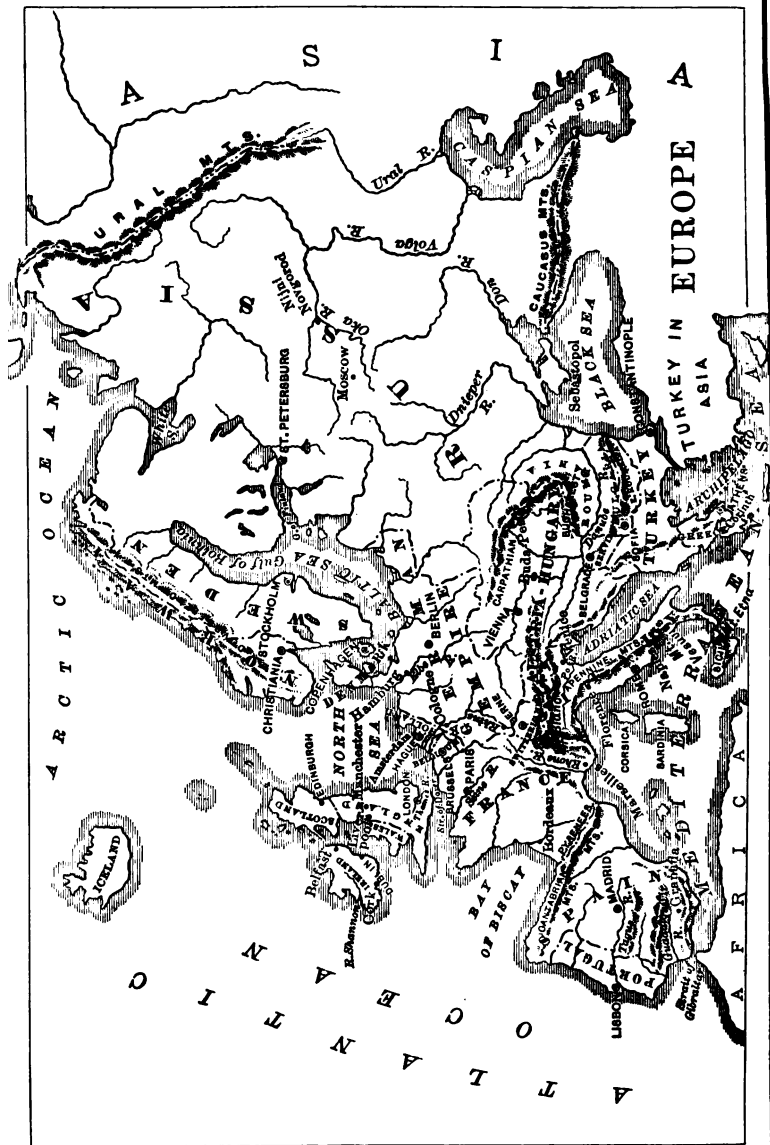
Until recently, the Russians were a rough, ignorant people, less civilized than the other nations of Europe ; but when this Peter came to be czar, he determined to improve his country and people. So he went about for several years in other countries, studied hard, and worked with his own hands, learning how to make the best ships. At last, he went home, and took with him good workmen, who could teach his people how to build them.

He adorned his large city with splendid palaces ; and it was called St. Petersburg, which means the city of Peter. He also had many strong vessels built, changed bad habits and fashions for better ones, and did indeed improve the whole country as much as was possible for one man.

The Czar Peter could not have made quite so much change in Russia if he had not had such power over the people. The peasants there are called *serfs*, and, until lately, were slaves to the rich owners of the land,—bought and sold with the land they lived on : but they are in better condition now ; for in 1861, Alexander II. made them all free.

Another large city in Russia is Moscow. When the French armies, under Napoleon Bonaparte, were most successful, they marched into Russia at one time as far as Moscow. It was a long, dreary march through the cold winter ; and the soldiers from pleasant, sunny France were unused to such weather. But Napoleon said to them, “Courage ! once in the city of Moscow, you will have houses, food, and a long rest for the winter.” And so they marched on, feeling quite sure of taking the city from the Russians. At last, they came near, all faint, cold, and hoping for rest and comfort, only to find the city in one great blaze ; for the people had set fire to their houses, and fled. Then they were obliged to turn back, without rest and without courage. Day after day they starved and froze, dropping down dead in the snow, one after another, until, out of all those thousands of men, not many lived to get back to France again.

Since then the Russians have had a war with the people called Turks, who live near the Black Sea. The French and English both thought Russia was quite large and



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

V. — EUROPE.

SEE how many countries of Europe are separated from those next them by mountains. In the old times how did mountains help to keep enemies out of a country? If there were no mountains on the map you could still tell pretty nearly where the high-lands are. How would you know this? The little beginning of a river is always much higher than any other part. It is much higher than the big mouth where the water of all the rivers taken up on its way pours out. There are three peninsulas in the south. Which of these has been the most famous? What climate do the people have on these peninsulas? What things grow there? One of these peninsulas has a little peninsula at its end. It also has a city very beautiful in the old time. Can you find it and remember its name? Notice the shape of Italy. What does it look like? A boot with the heel toward the east? Put your finger on the city where the people go about in gondolas. Find in Italy, too, the city once the capital of the world. Does the map show many mountains in France? Find the great city on the river Seine of which we hear so much. East of France is the small and very mountainous country of Switzerland. What rivers rise there? Through what country does the river Rhine flow? Put your finger on its source, and follow it down to the sea. In what direction does it run, and in what country is its mouth? Where are the dikes that people have built to keep out the sea? Which is the biggest country of Europe? Find the city that was burned when the French were about to take it. In what ways can people go by water to the fair at Nijni Novogorod? Find Constantinople and see whether it would be easy to go out of the Black Sea if the people at Constantinople were not willing. We might call that the gate of the Black Sea. Look at the long peninsula at the north. What do the people here do to live? When you see the very crooked line that makes the west coast of Norway, what do you think about the shore? Does that crooked line mean a rocky shore with many inlets, or a smooth, sandy shore with long beaches? What separates Norway from Sweden? Which country of Europe is on two great islands? How long would it take to cross where England comes nearest to the main land? Why do you suppose Ireland is called the Emerald Isle?

powerful enough, and sent soldiers to help the Turks. You have probably heard people speak of the Crimean War, and of Florence Nightingale, a kind lady, who went out to nurse the sick soldiers. The battle-ground was around the fortified city of Sevastopol, on the little peninsula of Crimea, which runs down into the Black Sea.

If you were in Russia you would like to go to the fair that is held at Nijni Novgorod. Taking the train at Moscow, and riding over a flat country, you would come, in about two hours, to the town, which is on the wide and deep-flowing Volga. Another river flows into the Volga here, so boats can come in three ways to the town. Let us go down to the fair. How many strange people we shall see, with the things they have brought from far-off countries! Here will be men from over the Ural Mountains who have brought precious stones cut in Ekaterinburg, and no longer rough as when they came from the mines. They have purple amethysts, and yellow topazes and the bright green malachite which is made into boxes, vases and paper weights. Here are Prussians from the Baltic Sea, who have brought yellow amber found on the shore. We must look over the amber to see if we can find some curious pieces that contain insects. This pretty amber was the sap of trees that grew long ages ago, and when the poor little insect rested on its sticky surface he was caught, the sap closed over him and there he has been ever since; and the old trees, changed into stone, lie far under the Baltic Sea, which tosses up the amber on the shore. Gay-colored rugs and shawls have been brought to the fair from over the Caspian Sea, and costly furs all the way from Eastern Siberia. Here are, too, the soft, curly black lamb-skins that we call Astrakan. The best

of these will not come over to us, for the eastern people like to wear them made into caps.

We shall not care so much to look at the wheat and barley and rye, which have grown on the wide-spreading steppes or plains of Russia and Siberia, for we have seen these at home. Under a long gallery by the river is iron in bars and sheets, and in kettles too — not pretty to look at, but very useful, and the best thing that comes to the Russians from their rich Siberian mines. And here are a great many shining brass samovars or Russian tea-urns, for every family, however poor, must have its tea. The tea is brought to the Fair from China on camels and sledges, and in boats to Perm, just this side of the Ural Mountains; then boats take it down a river to the Volga, and up the Volga to the Fair. The sugar does not come from the sugar-cane as ours does, but is made from the root of the beet, which grows in the middle of Russia. There is plenty of beet-root sugar at the Fair.

The caravans which bring goods for the Fair must set out a long time before it begins, for they have far to go. South of the Caspian Sea the camels are loaded two months before the Fair, for their long, hard journey across the deserts on the east of that sea. The men who take care of the caravans are roving Tartars, and stay at the frontier, till in November they go back again with the traders and the camels. The wandering tribes who keep their sheep on the plains, drive them to the Russian border, where they are killed, and the tallow candles made from their fat, sent to the Fair. So we shall see at the Fair how many different things the great Russian land produces, and in the next chapter we shall learn more of that part of it which lies in Asia, beyond the Ural Mountains.

LESSON IX—Where is Russia? Is the greater part warm or cold? How do the Russians often travel? What is the climate of the southern part? What is the chief city? What is the ruler called? Who built St. Petersburg? What else did Peter the Great do? What can you tell of another large city? What war have the Russians had lately? What can you tell of the Fair at Nijni Novgorod?

LESSON X.

THE URAL MOUNTAINS AND SIBERIA.

IN the east of Russia there is a large river, the Volga, running south-east and south. If we sail down this river for many miles below Moscow, and land on the east bank, we may get into a sledge with four or six horses, grooms to drive them, and a postilion to direct the grooms. Thus we may travel east, over a great plain called a *steppe*, for miles and miles. At last, however, things begin to change. There is no more tiresome level; hills rise higher and higher, and we approach a chain of mountains which you may find on your map, running between Europe and Asia.

These are the Ural Mountains, and they are of great use to the Russians; for in them are mines of iron, copper, and many precious stones. Some time ago, only a few huts were to be seen there; and a few serfs and prisoners were sent there to work. But now it is very different; and in the midst of the dark pine woods of the mountain country are large machine shops, and contrivances for mining. Rich merchants, and even princes, who own these mines, not only send out workmen, but sometimes go themselves, to look after their diamonds and emeralds;

and so it happens that we shall find occasionally, in some wild spot on the bank of a beautiful stream, a splendid palace, with gardens, hot-houses, and everything to make one forget the deep snows and gloomy forests of the Ural Mountains. There is quite a large town, called Ekaterinburg, just in the midst of the mines, made up of miners' huts and factories.

SIBERIA. — Crossing over this ridge of mountains into Asia, we shall find ourselves in Siberia, a large part of which is a vast plain, reaching from the Ural Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, occupying all the northern part of Asia for thousands of miles. It is often called Russia in Asia ; for this, too, belongs to the Russians.

You may well think that this is not a very pleasant country to travel in, much less to live in ; and yet there are people who have homes here ; and even Englishmen and Americans sometimes go to this dreary region ; for there is always something for men to do everywhere. It is not possible to live in the most northern part that borders on the Arctic Ocean, because of the cold ; though people sometimes go there from curiosity.

There are three large rivers, the Lena, Ob, and Yenisei (you can find them on your map) ; but they can be of little use near their mouths, as there they are frozen all the time. In the north, for miles, the snow covers the bare ground ; or sometimes a great, black forest of pines stretches away over the flat country as far as the eye can reach. In the south, however, there is a pleasant summer time, when flowers bloom and barley and oats grow, and here are thriving towns, which trade with Russia and China. Among the Altai Mountains are mining villages.

Many of the people are exiles ; for the Russians have long made a kind of prison of this dismal region. The

exiles are carried, partly by railroad and partly by boats, from Russia to Tomsk in Siberia, and then if they have further to go they must walk. They have around each ankle an iron band attached to a chain, which is carried up to the waist, so that it is hard to walk, and still more difficult to run away. The wives and children often go with the exiles, and all have to walk in the bitter cold and snow, in rain or in the heat of summer, this long, sad way. When they stop for the night they are crowded into small places which are very dirty, and where many must sleep on bare floors. Travellers have often described companies of these Russian convicts, or prisoners, walking, on the journey to their distant places of exile. They are so far from home, and the road back is so dreary, that, even if they should try to get away, they would most likely perish or be captured again. For this reason they are not locked up, but allowed to live in little huts of their own, watched over somewhat by a few Russian officers, and a governor who lives at Tobolsk. Many of these people are prisoners because they have done something wrong; but not all. Some good men and women are here because they wanted their country to be more free—and they have to live many years in huts where it is very cold, or to work in mines far away from their homes. And so this wide country stretching across the north of Asia, is like one great prison.

Besides the exiles, there are fur-hunters, who spend their lives in the woods; and a few merchants from other countries, who buy and bring home the skins to be made into furs. Hunting is dangerous in Siberia, and the hunters often perish from cold or hunger. Sometimes it is many days before the animals, hunted for their furs, are

found, and men are often buried in the snow. The most beautiful furs worn by ladies come from Siberia, and may well be costly.

One of the finest furs is taken from a small animal called the *sable*. Another costly fur is that of a still smaller animal called the *ermine*. This last is found in other countries; but in Siberia the skins are more beautiful; for here the hair of the ermine is perfectly white, all except the tip of the tail, which is quite black. When the skins are used for making muffs, tippets, or trimmings, a number of these black tips are tacked all over the white fur, making it look as if the skin were naturally spotted with black. The *marten* is also hunted for its fine, soft, brown fur. There are two kinds, but the stone-marten is the prettier. The hunters bring their skins to the cities, and sell them to the traders. Though the Siberian furs are called the finest, many are brought from British America, which has become a great fur-hunting region; and we now hear very frequently of American or Hudson Bay sable.

LESSON X. — Where is the Volga? What kind of country east of it? Where are the Ural Mountains? What can you say about them? What country east of the Ural Mountains? What rivers in Siberia? What can you tell of the country and people? What do we get from Siberia? What animals are hunted for their furs?

LESSON XI.

THE SANDY PLAINS OF MIDDLE ASIA.

You remember reading about the grand and beautiful sights among the Alps, in Europe ; but here in the vast, broad lands of Asia, where the mountain chains are so much longer, the rivers and forests far larger, the ravines deeper, and the torrents stronger, the country is still more wild and grand. Here are huge walls of rock, all rough and jagged, or split far down to where the foaming water rushes through deep valleys. Here are great blue lakes ; dark, gloomy caves and gorges in the rocky sides of the mountains ; and thick, dark forests. And rising above all are the white, snowy tops of the Himalayas, the grandest mountains in the world.

The great plain of Siberia is bounded on the south by a long chain of mountains running from west to east. To any one who has been travelling over Siberia, it is a wonderful change to come into the midst of the wild country of the Altai Mountains ; and one must go on horseback or on foot ; for no wheels can pass through the deep valleys, immense forests, and over the high cliffs.

The Altai Mountains make a sort of wall between Siberia and another great plain, or steppe, in the middle part of Asia. This plain is mostly a sandy desert ; but all around the edge of it, within a day's ride of the Altai Mountains on the north, or of another ridge of mountains on the south, there are great fields of grass.

On these grassy plains, reaching from the foot of the mountains to the sand, live many wandering tribes of

people called Tartars. By wandering tribes, we mean those who live in tents, and move when their cattle have eaten all the grass in one place. A rich chief will have several thousand horses, oxen, and sheep, besides camels. The flocks are often driven in the morning several miles toward the mountains to get good grass; but at night they are brought into a large camp, consisting of perhaps a hundred tents, enclosed with stakes. Men and dogs are set to watch; for these wild tribes are constantly robbing one another. Attacks are usually made in the night: then there is a great noise in the camp; the women shriek, the men rush out, and jump on their horses to follow the robbers; but sometimes a whole herd of cattle dashes away, like a whirlwind, before any one can stop it.

These Tartars live altogether from their flocks, and have neither bread nor vegetables; only sometimes a few dates and dried fruits, which they buy of people coming from distant towns. They prepare milk in various ways, and their favorite meat is horseflesh. On festivals they eat camel's flesh, which is more costly, as they do not like to kill the useful camel.

The wives and daughters of the greatest chiefs milk the cows and goats night and morning, instead of having servants to do it for them.

The summer dress of both men and women is made of two or three long, loose, cotton gowns, and the people are not cleanly. In the winter they all wear furs, for the cold is intense.

The plain is covered with grass only around the edges. Farther toward the interior there are sometimes vast levels of sand, sometimes bare rock or gravel, and the whole country is crossed by ridges of mountains. People ride on

horses, or on camels, which are still better ; since often a whole day, or even more, passes without a sign of grass or water. How pleasant it must be for travellers, after a long, tiresome ride over the burning sand, to reach a Tartar camp, to see flocks of sheep once more grazing on the fresh, green grass, and to taste the cool water ! Journeys



THE YAK OF THIBET.

are often made in severe winter weather over this dreary region, and the camel, which endures heat and thirst so well, likewise bears patiently the extreme cold. Sand storms often happen, and are very dangerous.

In the southern part of the great plain is the country of Thibet. All about this high table-land are very high

mountains, and it is also crossed by great ranges, with lakes among them. The animals have warm coats, which you will think they must need in this cold air. The sheep and goats are strong and carry burdens over the mountains, but the handsomest and most useful animal here is the long-haired yak. He is a strong, sure-footed creature, black, or black and white, with a big hump on his back, and a fringe of long, black hair hanging down around his body. If he is treated kindly he will carry heavy loads. The yaks give milk like our cows and the wool is used for garments. From the goats of Thibet comes a nice wool used for shawls, and from this wool comes the name given to our cloth which is called Thibet.

The Thibetans have some large cities, and are more civilized than the other tribes; living in houses, instead of wandering about from place to place. Their great city is Lassa, where the Grand Lama, or high priest, lives. He never leaves his dwelling, but sits cross-legged on a cushion, and blesses all who come to him.

The west side of the plain is also shut in by mountains. In the eastern part is a large river flowing into the Pacific Ocean, called the Amoor; this country is not so dry and sandy.

LESSON XI.—How does the surface of Asia compare with Europe? Where are the Altai Mountains? What is found south of the Altai Mountains? Who are the Tartars? How do they live? What is the middle part of the great plain? What storms happen there? Tell something about Thibet. What is the chief city of the Tartars? Where is the Amoor river?

LESSON XII.

ABOUT CHINA.

FROM China comes the tea we drink. This tea is brought here generally in small boxes, and looks like little, dark rolls ; but, after hot water has been poured on these rolls, you will find them softened, and spread out into little notched leaves. Now, these are the leaves of a plant that grows thousands of miles off, quite on the other side of the world, in that country which is called China, that you may find in the south-east of Asia, and which is a part of the great Chinese Empire.



TEA.

The tea-plants are not very high — not more than three feet — and grow on the sides of the hills, where the farmers plant whole fields of tea-shrubs, which they and their families take care of. In April when the little leaves first open, some of them are picked, and these make the best kinds of tea ; but the last of May is the busy time in those parts of China where the tea-plant is growing. Then women and children ask the farmers to hire them, and go off to the fields with their baskets to gather the leaves. They strip the leaves from the twigs and fill their baskets, but they must be very careful to take out all the sticks and yellow leaves and throw them away. The nice leaves are then dried in the sun, and over a fire, or in an oven, after which they are rolled by the fingers into balls,

and either dried again in the oven, or in the sun, according to the kind of tea that is made. The green tea has more of the oil and sap than the black tea, because it is dried differently. The Chinese are very fond of tea themselves, and drink it often through the day.

China is one of the oldest countries, and yet we know less about it than about many others ; for the people were never fond of running about, nor even of having strangers visit them. But these unsocial Chinese now allow merchants from different countries to trade there, and exchange goods with them ; and many of them have come across the Pacific Ocean to our country.

The Chinese think an empress of their country, very long ago, first reared the silk-worm (not really a worm, but a caterpillar), and made silk, and they have in Peking an altar in her honor. Perhaps she liked to watch the wonderful ways of little creatures about her, and so she saw these caterpillars feeding on the leaves of a mulberry tree. When they had eaten enough, she saw that they kept quiet and wound all around themselves threads and threads of soft silk, spinning it from their bodies. Out of this cocoon would come in time a handsome moth, and spread its wings to fly. But this would break the threads, and the thought came to her that these strong silk threads might be woven into stuffs. So she killed the sleeping silk-worm and made silk of the covering of his little bed. This was so long ago, that we cannot know whether the story of the empress is true or not ; but China is a very old country, and was perhaps the first to have silk.

People in many other countries have now learned how to rear the silk-worms, and this needs much care.

When the worms are growing, they must not be disturbed by noise or bright light, and they like nice, clean

places ; and when the cocoons are all made, they remain quiet for six days, when the little creatures inside are killed by steam. The cocoons are then carefully packed and those the Chinese do not want are sent away. A beautiful kind of silk goods, called crape, is made in China, and is used for dresses and shawls. It is called Canton crape, from the name of the city where it was made.



SILK-WORM

Fine China or porcelain was also first brought from this country ; and that is why it is called China. Before the Chinese traded much with other people, their porcelain or China ware was the most delicate and beautiful, and people in European countries even now cannot make the colors, red, green and blue, upon their China, like those of the Chinese. There are few dishes upon our tables now which come from China. But when you see any of this ware, you must look at the queer, eight-sided pagodas or towers, on the hills. Some are five stories high, and some are even thirteen stories. The people thought these brought good-fortune, and built them solid and strong. On the old China plates, too, you will see how the roofs of Chinese houses are built, looking like the slope of a canvas tent, and you will see people walking about, dressed very differently from us.

It is by trading and learning from one another that nations improve ; and while the Chinese are just as



CHINESE PAGODA.

they were years ago, other people, who have traded more, can now make finer silk and china-ware.

China is a fine, rich country, with a pleasant climate, and just hilly enough for a variety of products. Besides

tea, rice is abundant there and is much used for food. Many useful fruits and trees are found there. The camphor and cinnamon trees grow in many parts, also rhubarb and ginger.

The most beautiful tree the Chinese have is the Bamboo. It grows something like the willow of more northern countries, but it is indeed more like a big grass than like a tree. The stalks are fifty or seventy feet high, and from ten to twelve inches thick. When these trees grow on both sides of the road, and the light, feathery sprays meet high overhead, it is a pretty sight. The Bamboo is as useful as it is beautiful. When it first comes up out of the ground, the tops are eaten, as we eat asparagus. The stalks are hollow, you know, and very light, and they are used in China for building houses, for the frames of awnings, for fences, cages, ribs of umbrellas, and for fans. The leaves make cloaks to keep out the rain, and covers to keep out the sun, and linings for the tea-boxes. The wood is woven into baskets, and out of it are made chairs, tables, water-pipes, cups and chopsticks, while the shavings are used to stuff pillows and mattresses. Paper and pencils, hats and handkerchiefs, buckets, flutes, and fifes, are all made from it. *For a picture of the Bamboo, see page 69.*

As China has two large rivers, and very many small ones, people travel by water when they can, but often in wheelbarrows or sedan chairs, as well as in carts. A wheelbarrow, if it is only large enough and has a man to push it, is not bad, and a sedan chair is very pleasant. Luggage is often carried slung on a stick between two men. Thus, much work, that is here done by horses, is done in China by men.

As the people do not like to go with their families to live in other lands, the whole country is very much

crowded. Often, indeed, the poorer people have their homes in boats on the large rivers near the towns, and make a living by fishing. The fisherman steps from his boat-house early in the morning upon a raft, and pushes out into a more open part of the river, with, strange to say, no fishing-lines nor nets, only baskets, and a few great,



LIVING ON BOATS.

solemn-looking birds. The *cormorants*, as these birds are called, are excellent fishermen, and, diving in the water, catch one fish after another with their long bills, until the baskets are quite full. Then they catch as many as they like for themselves, and these are not few; for they are such greedy creatures that people have the habit of saying "As hungry as a cormorant." If a fish is too heavy for one bird to manage, another comes to help him; but when a little bird takes a fish, a bigger one will often take it away from him, being only a cormorant and not knowing any better. When several hundred of these birds are all fishing together, there is a lively and noisy time.

The manners and ways of living of this people are very different from ours. They use no forks, but put food into

their mouths with two little rounded sticks, called *chopsticks*.

They wear loose gowns and trousers, like other Eastern nations ; and shave all the hair excepting the top-lock, which, plaited in a long cue, hangs down behind. They think it a great beauty to have their fingernails long and sharp. The shoes of the men are wide and clumsy, turned up at the 'toes ; but the ladies of rich and noble families have their poor little feet bound up tightly, and the toes turned under when they are young, so that they cannot grow. A full-grown woman will have a foot only three or four inches long, and is proud of her pretty little embroidered shoes. But it is a queer sort of pleasure, and a queer sort of beauty, too ; for besides the pain at first, and afterward the little use of her feet, it cannot seem pretty to us to see a grown person toddling along like a child.

The boys are sent to school early, and are brought up very strictly, according to the Chinese notion of right. They always learn exactly the same things, and in just the same way. They are quite ignorant about other nations and countries ; for they think no other people are worth knowing.

The Chinese have more books than the other nations in Asia. They are governed by an emperor, around whom there is a great deal of ceremony and form.

The largest cities are Canton, Peking, and Nanking ; and the two great rivers are the Yang-tse-Kiang and Hoang-Ho.

LESSON XII. — What do we get from China? How is tea prepared? What do we know of China? Tell something about the silk worms. What kind of a country is China? Are there many people? Why do we see pictures of Chinese homes on China plates? What

useful tree grows in China? What can you tell of their way of fishing? How do the Chinese eat? How do they dress? Have they schools and books? What is their government? What are the largest cities and rivers?

LESSON XIII.

JAPAN.

FOUR large islands and many small ones east of Asia make the Empire of Japan. As these islands stretch over a long distance from north to south, some are warm and others cold; but in the largest island, where the trading cities are, there is a cold winter with a few days of snow, a warm summer and a pleasant spring and autumn — what is called a temperate climate.

If you were sailing on a steamer going to Yokohama, the chief port of Japan, you would see, when you were still far off from the coast, a high volcanic mountain. It has not thrown out any lava for more than a hundred years; but the top, above the woods upon its sides, is covered with lava, rocks and ashes. The people of Japan must be very fond of their handsome mountain, for you will often see it painted on their fans and lacquered ware and screens and porcelain. The steamers that run across the Pacific Ocean from California bring back many of these things to our country, so that we see the Japanese care much for flowers and birds, and know well how to paint and how to embroider them. When the cherry trees are in blossom in the spring, many people go out to see the beautiful sight, and have picnics in pleasant places to enjoy it, just as we should go to a menagerie or a circus.

The Japanese are different from any other people in Asia. While the Chinese do not like to change, these people are keen to know about foreign ways, and to copy what seems to them good. They want to learn, and so they send some of their boys who are faithful and clever,



JAPANESE TEMPLE.

over to the schools in Europe and America. Teachers, too, from our country go to Japan and teach their children. In all these ways they are rapidly becoming like Europeans. But we might also learn from them, for we cannot make bronze, or porcelain, or embroidery, or lacquered ware like theirs, and we could all learn from them to be

gentle and kind and polite, for one seldom sees a rude person in Japan.

If you went over there, instead of riding in a carriage, you would ride in something like a little girl's baby-carriage, only much larger, and one or two men would drag it. On the level country, the men go at a good pace and for a long time. (See page 57.) The houses, too, would look quite strange, built of wood, one or two stories high, and with wide projecting roofs.

In their rooms there is not much furniture, but a few chairs and pretty little tables, and a stand for a vase with a branch of quince blossom, perhaps, and a screen.

The women wear loose, flowing gowns, but many of the men are now beginning to wear coats and trousers, as with us. Among the mountains are beautiful temples and bronze statues of a god, some of them forty feet high.

The Japanese, like the Chinese, have tea-plants and drink much tea. They raise rice, too, and live more on rice, vegetables and fish than we do, and not so much on beef and mutton, milk and butter.

They have the camphor tree, which grows very large. The stem and root are cut into little pieces and heated in water, and thus we have our camphor.

LESSON XIII. — Where is Japan? What do the Japanese make? How do they differ from the Chinese? How do they behave?

LESSON XIV.

ARABIA AND TURKEY.

COFFEE, as well as tea, grows in Asia ; and you will find a country jutting out from the south-west corner of the continent, from which some of the best coffee comes.

This country is *Arabia*, and there is a great deal that is interesting to be learned about it. A great part of it is desert land, and people travel almost wholly in caravans. Many merchants pass through Arabia with spices, gums, precious stones, and other costly things that come from the East. Camels are much used ; but Arabia is also famous for beautiful horses, with arched necks, and slender legs ; and they are often sent to other countries.

There are two kinds of Arabs, — some who are civilized, and live in large, handsome cities ; and others who dwell in tents, and dash about over the desert on fiery horses, often robbing caravans and killing the merchants.

These desert Arabs, however, take good care of those whom they are protecting across the desert, and do not steal from them or let any one else. They have one camping ground for the winter and one for the summer, and when they are travelling from one to the other, they do not pitch their tents, but wrap themselves up and sleep under the open sky. So they are healthy and cheerful and can endure hardship without complaint. They carry up to Suez the wool and hair of their sheep and goats, and the gum-arabic, which is the sap of a tree growing here, and these they exchange for corn and tobacco ; but they are not much given to trading.

Long ago, a man called Mahomet was born in Arabia, who had a strange notion that God had chosen him for a prophet to teach people the true religion. At first nobody would believe him ; for the Arabs had their gods, or idols, and thought it very wicked to say any thing against them. So they not only laughed at the new prophet, but were very angry, and tried to kill him. He fled from the place where he had lived, and wandered about for a long time with a few friends, living in rocky caverns, where he wrote a book which he declared to be the word of God. More and more people joined him ; and, by persuading and fighting, he succeeded in bringing over so many to his way of thinking, that what he taught became the religion of the country. In time his doctrines spread, so that now there are millions of people who worship one God, whom they call *Allah*, and one prophet, Mahomet, sent by Allah to teach men, and give them a book of lessons and prayers called the *Koran*.

Mecca, the town where Mahomet was born, and Medina, the town where his body was buried, are in Arabia, near the Red Sea ; and Mahometans, wherever they may be, in Africa, Asia, or the islands of the tropical seas, turn to these holy cities when they pray.

The Mahometans say many prayers, and even bad men take great care to be exact in this matter. There are prayers for the morning and evening, and for other occasions ; and young children are taught to say them. Three times a day the priests from the minarets, or little towers of the mosques or churches, cry in a loud voice, in every neighborhood, "To prayers, to prayers, O true believers!" and men, women, and children begin at once to recite the prayers of the hour, whether they are in the streets or at home.

If Mahometans live near enough they like to make journeys or pilgrimages to Mecca, and sometimes to Medina also, and many a weary mile they travel in caravans across the desert sands, from Persia and from Turkey. But pilgrims, as well as other people, like to take the easiest way, and



A WOMAN OF THE EAST.

those who come from Turkey often sail now through the canal at the Isthmus of Suez and down the Red Sea. Then they have only a little way to go to their holy cities.

The Arabs are a dark-skinned people, with dark eyes, and dark, straight hair. They are generally slender, and

often handsome. They wear loose gowns of silk, linen, or cotton, with wide trousers gathered around the ankles; and, instead of hats, the men have several yards of muslin or linen twisted round their heads, called *turbans*. The women wear close-fitting vests, with skirts of different colors, and trousers like those of the men. They always wear large veils on their heads, in the street or before men, which are drawn over their faces so as to show only their eyes. It is a great disgrace for a lady to show her face to any man except her father or husband.

The Arabs and the Turks are Mahometans just as the Moors were in the old times; and all have nearly the same customs in regard to women.

Rich men have many wives, instead of one as with us, and keep them shut up in a part of the house where men never come. These rooms for women are called *harems*, and joined to them are beautiful gardens, full of fruit-trees, birds, and fountains; but they are surrounded by high walls, and have trusty servants to keep guard. These wives have many maid-servants, so that there are often one or two hundred women in one house. Women are not respected nor treated so well as in Western countries. In all the cities there are slave-markets, where young girls and boys, as well as men and women, are sold for slaves.

From Arabia came the Mahometans who settled in the north of Africa, and were there called Moors, — the same Moors who crossed over into Spain. Among them were many learned men and skilful builders, and they were quite unlike the wandering Arabs of the Desert whom we see in these days.

The Turks, whom we find in *Turkey*, — which is north of Arabia, partly in Asia, and partly in Europe, — are also

Mahometans, and live and dress pretty much as they do in Arabia. They are governed by *sultans*, or *caliphs*, and have handsome mosques in their cities.

These people are very fond of flowers, perfumes, music, and such pleasures. Even a poor man will spend half the little money he makes in one day, for flowers, sweet-scented waters, and wax lights or oil, that he may enjoy better his feast at the end of the day's work. Fortunately, in those places, the climate is so warm, that shelter, clothes, and strong meats, are little needed, and spices, fruits, and flowers are cheap and plentiful.

There are many beautiful flowers, lilies of different kinds, and quantities of roses. Whole fields of roses are planted, from which a delightful perfume is made, which I dare say you have seen. It comes in little vials, and costs a great deal: it is called *attar of roses*.

These Turks have no chairs, but sit on cushions, and have often three or four more cushions to lean upon. When they have seated themselves, cross-legged, with their feet tucked under them, black slaves spread the food before them, light perfumed tapers, and sprinkle sweet-scented waters around. These people use no knives, but each one dips his hand into the dish, and then passes it to his neighbor. If a Turk wishes to be very polite to his guest, he puts morsels of food into his mouth. Each man has a long, queer-looking pipe, and will smoke for hours, sitting on his cushions, while his slave girls dance to amuse him, or sing, or, best of all, tell long and very wonderful tales. What should we think here, to see a grave, gray-haired man listening to fairy-tales?

The Turks bathe often, and in all the cities there are public baths.

There are several large, handsome cities in Turkey. Constantinople is known all over the world ; you may find it just where a narrow part of the sea separates Europe from Asia. Miles away, one can see the high, slender *minarets*, or towers, rising from the mosques, and the green tops of the trees that grow in groves and gardens in the midst of the city. Constantinople was built by one of the Roman emperors many years ago. It is a long story to tell how it came to belong to the Turks.

There are two rivers running into the Persian Gulf, called the Tigris and Euphrates, which you must remember.

Near the River Tigris are two large cities, — Bagdad and Bassora. A city called Damascus is a stopping-place for caravans ; and the people here were once rich in all sorts of splendid goods, especially heavy, embroidered satin called tapestry. This was used in Europe, many years ago, to hang on the walls of rooms in large houses.

In the country now held by the Turks were once some of the most famous cities of the old time. Babylon and Nineveh, in the valley of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers, are often spoken of in the Old Testament, and were beautiful cities, although long ago they were deserted and quite covered over with earth. But men who knew what great cities these once were have been there, and have set many people digging, to see if there was anything of the old glory still to be found, covered up by the earth. And sure enough, they came to the great palaces of Nineveh, with stories of the kings and their battles and sieges, all cut in pictures on the walls.

Lions with heads like men, and great winged bulls, still stood carved in stone at the silent gates. Many of these

wonderful things have been carried away and put into the museums of Europe and of our country, where they will be safe, for the Turks do not care for these things. They do not read our books, or know the story of the old time, when, where they now live, the cities were great and glorious.

There was Troy quite up in the north-west corner of Turkey in Asia. You will like to read the story of the Siege of Troy, which has been a delight to girls and boys, as well as to their fathers and mothers, for thousands of years — how the Greek heroes came over to take the city, and what happened there, as Homer tells it. Men have gone from Europe, and even from America, to dig here, because they so liked the fine old story; and from the shores of Turkey, by the Mediterranean Sea, beautiful statues and columns and pictures cut in stone have been brought away.

Many ships go to Smyrna for raisins and oranges and figs, but when they bring something from the old cities under the ground, that is even better.

LESSON XIV. — Where is Arabia? What grows there? What is said of the country? What kind of people are the Arabs? Who was Mahomet? What is said of the Mahometans? How do the Arabs dress? What is said of the women? Where did the Moors come from? What is said of the Turks? What is attar of roses? How do the Mahometans eat? What is said of their cities? What famous cities were there in this country long ago?

LESSON XV.

PALESTINE AND PERSIA.

THE HOLY LAND. — North of Arabia, there is a narrow strip of land along the Mediterranean Sea. This is Palestine, or the Holy Land, and was the country of the Jews.

There Moses led the people of God up from Egypt, after they had crossed the Red Sea.

David was king there; and after him his son Solomon, who built the great Temple. There is the city of Jerusalem, and the little town, Nazareth, where Jesus lived. You may find also the river Jordan, that is so often spoken of in the Bible; and the Dead Sea, whose water is so bitter and salt that fishes cannot live in it.

After Christ was crucified by those Jews who did not believe in him, his disciples went about teaching his word to other nations. But, while many nations were becoming Christians, the Jews were conquered, and driven from Palestine, which at last belonged to the Mahometans. After a long time the Christians in Europe thought it a shame that the Holy City should belong to infidels, and went over in great armies to take it from the Mahometans. There are many stories about these long wars, which were called *crusades*, or wars of the cross.

But the crusaders did not recover Palestine, and it still belongs to the Mahometans.

East of Turkey there is a country called *Persia*. We hear very little of it in these days; but, long ago, the Persians were a very powerful people. They had fine, rich cities; and some of their kings raised large armies, and conquered all the nations near them.

They worshipped fire as a god, and built stone altars on the hills or high places. The sacred fires burning on these altars were watched by priests night and day, so that they might never go out. Other nations called these Persians *fire-worshippers*; but they are now Mahometans, although a little different in faith from most of the other followers of Mahomet.

The Persians in our day wear loose robes, and are much like other Eastern nations.

They have always made a great deal of silk, and many precious stones are found in their country. The Persians used to make beautiful carpets and small rugs on which they kneel to pray. The rugs they make now are not quite so good as those, but still people like to buy them, for the Persians have always had a way of putting colors together so as to make something very pleasant to look at.

Much of the land is barren and desert-like; but there are beautiful, rich valleys in different parts, where many delicious fruits grow, especially melons.

Persia is famous for its beautiful flowers. Hyacinths and many other bulbous plants grow wild. There are large gardens of roses, which are planted to make the perfume we call attar of roses.

LESSON XV.—What do we call the Holy Land? Why? What river in Palestine? What sea? What became of the Jews? What were the crusades? What country east of Turkey? Were the Persians ever a great people? What is said of them? What of the Persians of our time? What flowers grow there?

LESSON XVI.

INDIA, OR HINDOSTAN.

THERE is one more country in Asia that you must learn something about. Look on your map at the southern part of the continent, and you will find a three-cornered tract of land running into the Indian Ocean, and bordered on the north by the Himalaya Mountains.

On the map of Asia, India does not look like a very large country, but it is as large as the whole of Europe, excepting Russia, and has many more people. It has several different states, and the people

in some of these are more unlike than the English and the French, and do not understand each other's speech. It has great cities, too, with palaces and temples of rare work and wonderful beauty. Some are of white marble, inlaid with precious stones, agates, bloodstones and jaspers, and with fine carving. We could not in our day build anything of so singular beauty. And all these have been built by the brown men of India. Among these brown men, to-day, are many who are ignorant and poor and



TEMPLE IN INDIA.

dirty, more so than any poor people we have with us. But there are also many who are wise and learned, not only in the learning of their own people, but also in our learning, and who speak and write English as well as we do.

So you will like, when you are older, to learn more about these Indian people and about their great country.

If we should sail along its east coast, through the Bay of Bengal, until we reach the north-east corner, and then go up a river, we should presently land at a large city called Calcutta.



COCONUT TREE.

Here, in the midst of these Eastern countries, with the dark-skinned, loosely-clothed people, you will be astonished to see plenty of soldiers' coats, white linen trousers, straw hats, and home-like faces; and also fine, large, white houses, with Venetian blinds, and long verandas, or piazzas.

For a moment we might almost think we were again in England or America; but there are strange sights enough to bring us back to Asia, — clumps of coconut trees, rows of little mud huts, dark-colored people in tawdry silk or white cotton garments. Standing at the corners of the streets are wild, miserable-looking creatures, nearly naked, with their faces painted white or yellow, and their long hair and beards straggling down. These men shriek out curses or prayers as they stretch out their long, bony hands to beg for money. Along the sidewalks are tradesmen, squatted down in the midst of the wares they sell; and here and there a juggler is amusing a crowd of boys

by turning somersets, and playing all sorts of tricks. Queer-looking, long boxes are carried through the streets by men holding a pole at each end. These are carriages that people ride about in, and are called *palanquins*.

But how came the town so full of English faces and English houses, off here, quite on the other side of the earth? It is a long story to tell how the English first began to trade here years ago, and are now masters of the country, and have everything their own way.

Every year many persons go from England to India to make money. Whole troops of soldiers are sent out, and many of the officers and merchants take their wives with them; but the climate is hot and unhealthful, so that children are almost always sent to England to stay until they grow up. No Englishmen make homes here, where their children and grandchildren live after them, but they all hope to go back to England after staying a few years. Little English children do not often find any grandmothers and grandfathers in India.

You will know, as India is near the equator, that the climate is hot. Much of the country is very wild, and covered with thickets of brush-wood, called *jungles*. These jungles are damp and unhealthful, and are filled with troublesome insects, and poisonous serpents, whose bite will kill a man in a few minutes. In the jungles, too, are fierce tigers which often kill and carry off cattle and even men. It is dangerous to hunt these tigers, and people go out to shoot them on elephants, so that the men with the guns are high above the thick jungle in which the tiger is hiding.

The high tops of the Himalaya Mountains are always covered with snow. From their sides many streams rush

down, — some of them large rivers, and some of them torrents pouring through the mountain gorges in foaming waterfalls.

South of these mountains there is a wide, rich valley, or plain, with a large river, the Ganges, running through it from west to east.

Besides the rice, indigo, and gums that we get from India, the silk-worms furnish great quantities of silk



TRAVELING ON ELEPHANTS.

thread; and in the mountain country are pastured the Cashmere goats, from whose hair are made the finest shawls in the world. The Hindoos make very fine, thin muslin, used for some of our prettiest gowns, and called India muslin.

Perhaps the strangest things in India, to one who goes there for the first time, are the huge elephants. They are

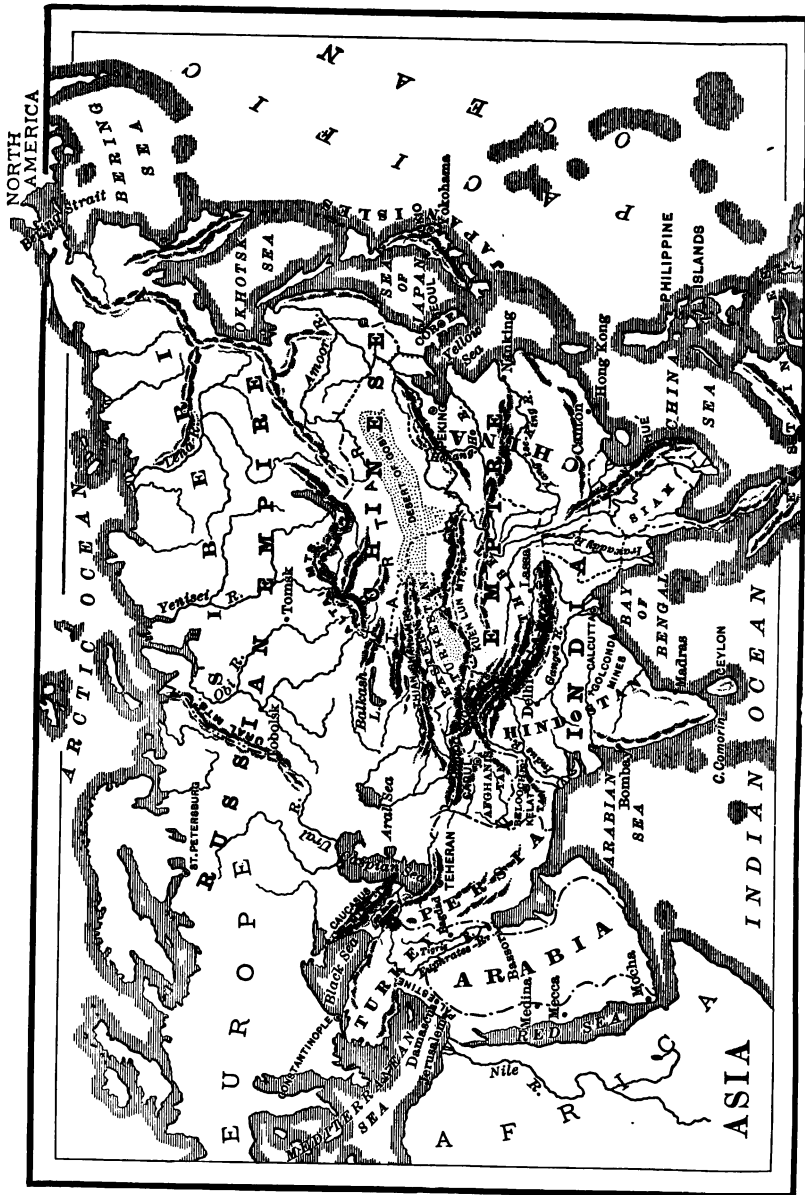
used instead of horses or camels, and every day people ride about, perched high upon the backs of these great creatures. The men who manage the elephants know their ways, and are not afraid of them; but they often do great harm.

Some of the finest diamonds in the world come from India. Hundreds of men are kept all their lives digging and washing and sifting the earth in search of these precious stones.

Diamonds are of all colors, but often pale pink or yellow; and those without any color are most valued. They glitter and sparkle brilliantly, and the rare ones cost thousands of dollars. The most beautiful diamonds of the world have come from India. The Emperor of Russia has the largest in his sceptre, and the Emperor of Austria has one of the largest.

The famous diamond called the Kohinoor is in the crown of the Queen of England. This is so precious that it is kept with other precious things of great value in the Tower of London, and if you were in London you could go to see it.

LESSON XVI.—Where is India? What other name has it? How large is it? What large city in India? What is said of the city and people? What are palanquins? Why are there so many English in India? What kind of people are the Hindoos? What fine buildings are there in India? What are jungles? What is said of the Himalaya Mountains? What of the Ganges? What do we get from India? What can you tell of the elephants? What of the diamond mines?



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

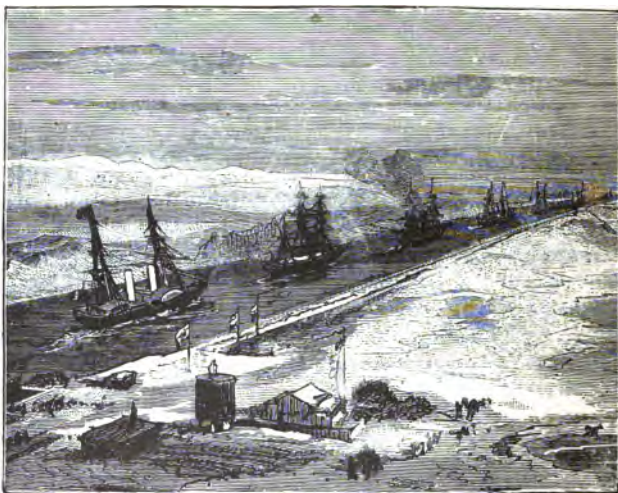
VI. — ASIA.

SEE in what direction most of the mountains extend. See, too, how the rivers flow in the valleys between the mountains and run down from the high table-land on three sides. To whom does the great plain on the north belong and for what is part of it used? How many great peninsulas on the south? You remember the peninsulas on the south of Europe. Is the weather here as it is there? See how much farther south and how much nearer the equator these are. In which peninsula do many English people live? Some interesting people live on islands at the east of Asia. Who are they? Find the countries from which the tea comes. Which of the peninsulas is in part a desert? Put your finger on the place to which the Mahometan pilgrims go. How would a steamer go from the Mediterranean Sea to India? Show that cut through the land which is so convenient.

LESSON XVII.

ABOUT EGYPT.

THOSE of you who know the story of Joseph and his brothers, which is told in the Bible, will remember he was sold, and went with his master down into a land called Egypt. Only a few lessons back, you learned where Palestine is, which was Joseph's country, and was called Canaan in those days. You will think, therefore, that Egypt must



SUEZ CANAL.

be near Palestine; and there you will find it, a little to the south-west, just in that corner of Africa that joins Asia. By the side of it is the Red Sea, which, as we read, the Israelites crossed long after Joseph was dead, and where King Pharaoh and his Egyptians were drowned in trying to follow them.

And now this Red Sea is joined to the Mediterranean Sea by a canal which has been cut through the little strip of land holding Africa to Asia. The great steamers from England, that go often to India, do not now have to go all the way round the continent of Africa, but sail through this canal into the Red Sea and quickly to India. And this is good, because in India are many English people, who like to hear often from their homes in England, and are all the time sailing back and forth.

Egypt is one of the oldest countries in the world ; that is, the people had large cities, fields, and roads long before our Bible was written, and when most of the nations of the earth were wild and savage.

We know more about the old times in Egypt than in other countries, because the people had a habit of writing everything that happened, on the walls of their temples and palaces and on the tombs of their kings. As many of these ruins are still found, some standing, and some buried in the ground, scholars who know the Egyptian language can read now what was written hundreds of years ago.

Their way of writing was not like ours. They had strange-looking figures for letters, and represented many things by pictures ; so that now, after all these years, there are often found, painted on the tomb of a king, the battles which he fought. Sometimes people, dressed differently from the Egyptians, are painted running away, showing that they were beaten in the battle. By these pictures we have learned how they used to live and dress, and what sorts of carriages and arms they used.

Besides this, we are told a good deal about these people in the Bible.

Egypt is not a large country, and the part which contains

the great cities and the cultivated region is a long valley in the middle, where the River Nile flows.

You have already learned how this river overflows its banks every year, and waters the country where there is no rain. This happens from August to October. The villages are built on mounds above the plain, so that when the river has overflowed its banks, and all around is like a wide lake, the people can be safe above the water and go sailing about in their boats.

The people who now live in Egypt are Mahometans, and dress and live like Turks and Arabians. A part of the city of Cairo is new; but in the old part we shall find narrow streets, and bearded, turbaned men, and we shall hear the same call to prayer from the mosques as in other Eastern cities. Many of the streets are so narrow that a camel with a bundle of sugar-canes on his back and the stalks sticking out on both sides, takes up the whole street.

What should we think to see our ladies going shopping on asses? Yet this is the common way of getting about; and we shall meet both men and women seated on these small animals, while servants go before to clear a way through the crowded street, crying aloud, "Look out!" "Take care, O uncle!" "To the right!" "To the left!" "Thy foot, O my daughter!" "Run away!" The servants who run before, with a light stick to clear the way, are dressed in velvet jackets embroidered with gold, and have white muslin sleeves and loose white trousers coming to the knee, and showing their strong black legs below. They wear turbans with blue tassels coming down to the middle of the back and flying behind as they run. One sees at Cairo many Eastern people of different colors and

with different kinds of dress. Some are very black, and others brown or light-colored. Some wear colored silk petticoats, with jackets of a different color, so that the streets are very gay and amusing.

The women cover their faces with a veil. Strangers are surprised to see children so dirty and poorly clad: even those led by richly dressed mothers are unwashed, uncombed, and often ragged. This is not because they are neglected, as we might suppose, but quite the contrary. Mothers are very proud of their children, and are constantly afraid that some envious person may bewitch their darlings with the "evil eye" if they should look too pretty. Therefore they never "dress them up" to go out. The baby is carried, not in its mother's arms, but astride upon her shoulder. Little girls are taught at home to repeat prayers, sing, dance, and embroider. Only the boys go to school. The little fellows, in their long gowns and white skull-caps, sit cross-legged upon mats or cushions, and study their lessons from slates. When one lesson is learned perfectly, the master rubs it out, and writes another in its place. The children learn to repeat sentences from the Koran, which is their Bible, and it teaches them to be kind and forgiving, and good to animals. A school and a fountain are found at almost every mosque (or church), so that when you stop to drink at the fountain, you hear the children repeating their verses from the Koran, as they swing slowly in time back and forth. In some of the large mosques are schools for the older boys, where they learn much more.

Not only sweetmeats and fruits are carried about the streets to sell, but also water in large skins, or leather bottles, which are swung in pairs either over the back of a

donkey or a man's shoulders. The houses have wells or cisterns : but, for drinking, people like the water from the River Nile ; and the water-carriers stop at door after door to fill one or more earthenware pots for the day. From time to time there are great processions or merry-makings of some kind, with music, drums, torches, and shouting. A wedding sometimes lasts for several days.

If you were standing on some high place in Cairo, and looked westward across the city, there would be first the gay streets, then the green mulberry trees around, then the Nile with its boats, then the corn-fields beyond, and then, far off, the shining, yellow sand of the Libyan desert. And there, at the edge of the desert, would be the Pyramids, big and grand against the sky. Perhaps you would drive out to see them, or ride on the nice Egyptian asses, far handsomer than our donkeys, and with an easy, pleasant gait. In about two hours you would come to the Pyramids, the most wonderful works of the old Egyptians. These are huge, pointed, stone buildings, in the midst of a great bare plain, which seem to have been used as tombs of kings, and which remain nearly perfect after all these years. In all the world there is nothing else like them. Inside you would find that a Pyramid is dark and gloomy enough, with many passages in the thick walls, and a room where the body of the king was laid. Three of the Pyramids are very large, but there are many smaller ones in this part of the country. Here was Memphis, one of the most famous cities of the old Egypt.

Travellers often hire a boat with masts and sails, and go up the Nile as far as the first cataract. If there is plenty of water in the river, the boat can often go up beyond the first cataract. This sail is very pleasant. If you were on

the boat, you would see, as you went along, an ugly buffalo or a camel, tied and feeding on the plain, fields of waving grain, villages rising a little above the valley; and far off, on each side, where the green strip ends which is made fertile by the overflow of the Nile, you would see the yellow sands of the desert.



NILE BOATS.

You would come to the ruins of the grand old city of Thebes, where still stands the Temple of Karnak, which is one of the most wonderful in all the world. Its great entrance hall is so large that the largest churches or cathedrals could be set down in it with plenty of room to spare. The columns are so many that they seem like the trees of a wood in number. On the walls are wonderful picture writings which tell the story of the Egyptian kings. In one place they give an account of the conquest of the Jews when the son of Solomon was king. And the Egyptians tell the story on the walls of this old temple, just as the Jews tell their story of the same time in the twelfth chapter of the second book of Chronicles, in the Old Testament.

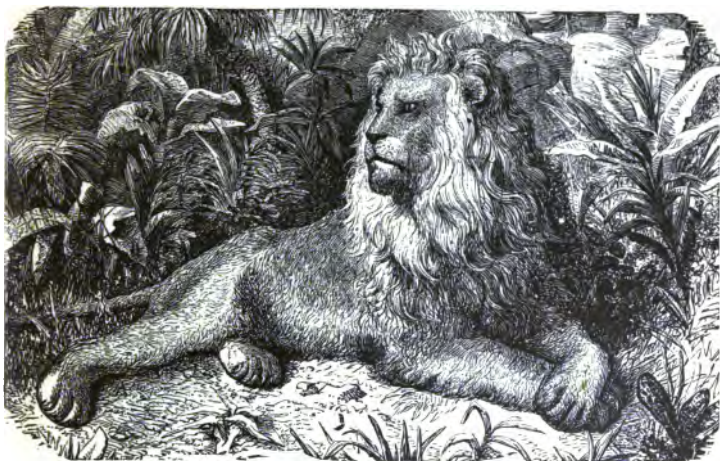
As you went farther up the river, you would often stop and go on shore to see the tombs built in the rocks, where

the story of the one who has died is told in the picture-language, and where the colors are as bright as if they were put on yesterday.

There are no forests in Egypt, and the only large trees are the date-palm and the sycamore. In the shallow waters of the canals there are many water-plants. One of these, called the *lotus*, is a kind of lily, and has beautiful blue and white flowers, and a large root, something like an onion, which the people eat, either roasting it, or drying and pounding it to a kind of flour, of which cakes are made. The green tops are also cooked and eaten. Another plant, very useful to the old Egyptians, was a sort of reed on the banks of the Nile, that was made into paper; the only kind they had. It was called *papyrus*; and large rolls of it have been found, covered with writing.

Egypt has not been well governed, and the people have been very miserable; but now England is trying to bring order into Egypt, and better ways, and there are many Englishmen in the country.

LESSON XVII.—Where is Egypt? How can we sail from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea? What is said of Egypt? Why do we know so much about it? What kind of writing had the old Egyptians? What do we learn from it? What river in Egypt? What of the schools? Of water-carriers? What strange buildings in Egypt? What might you see if you were sailing up the Nile? What trees grow in Egypt? What was papyrus? What is said of the people now in Egypt?



AFRICAN LION.

LESSON XVIII.

OTHER COUNTRIES OF AFRICA.

You must remember that the country of which we have spoken makes only a small part of Africa. There are many thousands of miles of which we have said nothing; and in fact there is no continent so little known. Bold, restless men, who have nothing else to do, sometimes travel in these places, that they may hunt the wild animals; and preachers or missionaries are sent by the churches in Christian countries, to teach the negroes our religion, and to improve them if possible.

South of the Barbary States there is a vast sandy desert. It is the largest in the world, and is called the Great Desert. You know already how merchants travel across deserts, with camels, in large caravans.

NORTH AFRICA. — We generally think of Africa as the home of ignorant negroes ; but there were long ago handsome cities, the chief of which was Carthage, all along the north coast, on the Mediterranean Sea. And something is still left of these great cities. Over the gorges of the mountains are the aqueducts by which water was carried to the towns. There are writings on stone, and lovely, but broken statues, and pictures made with different colored stones called mosaic, which the Romans used for floors.

Even among the mountains there are remains of baths and temples and many other things which tell the story of the great Roman people who once lived in the north of Africa.

And after the Romans, came the Moors. They were civilized, and had books and schools, while many nations of Europe were wild and ignorant. The Moors lived there when some of them went into Spain, and most of the people who live there now are Mahometans.

You may see, in the city of Algiers, pieces of statues and things that belonged to the Romans, gathered up for safe keeping in a beautiful Moorish palace, with Arab writing on the walls, and colored tiles.

The Romans have gone and the Moors have gone, but the things they have left behind are better worth seeing than anything else in North Africa to-day. And this is because the people, since the Moorish time, have been ignorant and cruel and good for nothing. Their vessels went out to rob and kill among the richly-laden ships on the Mediterranean Sea, taking men captive and selling them as slaves. At last some of the nations found they must try to put a stop to it. Our own country sent over

war ships and taught them not to meddle with any vessels that had the stars and stripes flying.

The French have the rich port of Marseilles on the Meditterrean Sea, and, about fifty years ago, they thought it would not do any longer to have the nest of Barbary pirates over opposite. So they sent over soldiers to Algiers. And now the French hold Algiers, and have a protectorate over Tunis ; and they have built good roads, railroads and bridges.

Morocco is still in a bad state under a native ruler.



CARAVAN CROSSING THE DESERT.

In North Africa caravans are often seen coming from over the Desert. A caravan with a hundred or more camels and horses is a pleasant sight. The camels are piled up high with costly loads ; and their owners, in the rich robes and turbans of the Mahometans, are mounted on beautiful Arabian horses. These caravans come from Egypt, visiting the cities of North Africa, and the villages in the oases of the desert. Sometimes large caravans come all the way from the Arabian cities into the African desert, exchanging goods with other caravans, or with the black tribes they find on its borders, and return home

after a journey of two or three years. After travelling all day over the hot sand, the merchants are glad when they can find a little patch of grass and trees where they may rest, smoking their long pipes, and listening to wonderful tales of strange lands and people, or still more wonderful tales of magicians and fairies. In these oases, oranges, figs, date-palms, pomegranates and peaches grow, and refresh tired travellers.

Besides the inland deserts, there are rich, sloping countries all along the east and west coasts of Africa; but



AFRICAN HUT

they are very unhealthy for white men. These countries are watered by short rivers running into the ocean; and many parts are covered by thick forests of large trees and twining plants, some useful for food, and some for dyes or medicines.

In these countries, where the climate is hot, and unhealthy for strangers, there live hundreds of negro tribes, each with its own chief, or king, and its own language. The negroes have never learned to build cities or vessels; and have neither schools, books, churches, nor factories. They are still ignorant and savage, and live in little huts of mud, or in caves. Some of the best and most sensible tribes know how to make coarse cotton cloth, and jars or pots of clay. Most of the negro women weave baskets and mats of palm-leaves and willow twigs. The men live by hunting and fishing, and, indeed, do nothing else: for, if a little grain is to be planted, the women do all the dig.

ging, as well as the weaving and cooking; for they are considered only as slaves.

These tribes often fight with each other; and those who live near the coast sell their prisoners to men who carry them to other countries as slaves.

The negroes hunt elephants for their tusks, or long side-teeth, which they send to the coast to sell to the white people who go there for them. It is from these tusks that our ivory articles are made; and therefore they are worth a great deal of money in our countries: but traders only give the negroes glass beads, a little calico, and other trifles for them; which is a fair bargain, for the ivory is of no use to the negroes, while they are delighted to get what seems very trifling to us.

The ivory is heavy to carry, and the Arab traders often attack the negro villages, kill many of the people and make slaves of the rest. Then they load these poor creatures with the ivory to carry down to the sea and the ships. Some day perhaps there will be railroads in this country, and that will help put an end to stealing men, women and children and selling them for slaves. Many slaves are all the time sent away to Mahometan countries.

White traders do much harm to the Africans by selling strong drink to them, which takes away the little sense they have; but along with these bad traders go good men also, who teach them to live as we do, to wear clothes, to make things, and to try to be good.

When one has crossed the low country which borders the coast of Africa, and has climbed up to the high table-land farther inland, the air is cooler and the climate not so unhealthful. But it is hard to get through this country that makes the middle of Africa, and until lately we did

not know much about it. There is the great danger of sickness, and danger from savage men and wild beasts. But brave men who were not afraid to die, and who wanted to do good to the people or to learn about the country, have now even gone in at one side of this continent and have come safely out at the other. They have told us that there are several great lakes on the high land.

It is easier to sail in a boat than to walk across a dangerous country, so that these great lakes are going to help very much to travel in Middle Africa. And already, on these lakes, missionaries have houses and schools, and are trying to teach these savage people to be kind and merciful. They even have little steamboats on these far inland waters. How did the steamboats get there? There are no rivers on which one can sail directly from the sea to the lakes, for when the rivers come from the table land down to the plain, they tumble down like the Nile and the Congo and the Zambesi in cataracts, and boats cannot pass these falls; but "Where there is a will there is a way," and the discoverers and missionaries and traders have made their boats in many pieces, so that each piece can be carried on the shoulders of negroes, and then when they come to quiet water they put the little boat together and sail in it.

Among these brave men you will some day read about Dr. Livingstone, who went into the middle of Africa, not to get ivory or to kill wild beasts for fun, but to do good to the poor savages, and to show them better ways. There was a time when he could not get out. Nobody knew where he was. He had learned so much about this wild land and had told us so much that we wanted to know, he was so wise and good and brave, that when he did not

come out people were very sorry. So Mr. Stanley, a Welshman who lived in New York, said he would go and try to find Dr. Livingstone. He did go, and the place where he found him was by the shore of Lake Tanganyika. You may well think how glad these two men were to see each other.

Perhaps you will suppose that Dr. Livingstone took good care not to stay longer in such a place. But no. He thought it right to remain there, trying to do good as long as he lived. So very soon he went on travelling, and presently died there with no white man near. But the natives, whom he had taught, loved him and felt as if this good man were their father.

Mr. Stanley, of whom we Americans feel proud because he is a kind of American, has made more than one journey to Africa since that first time, and has told us much about Africa that we did not know before.

On the west coast there is a country called Liberia, where people in America have sent freed negroes, and given to each a bit of ground to cultivate, hoping that they would improve themselves and help to civilize the ignorant negroes in the neighborhood. Missionaries have gone there to live, and have formed schools and churches for them. They have made considerable progress, and have now a government something like ours.

On the west coast of Africa is also the Congo Free State, a large country watered by the Congo, which some of the European powers, Belgium, France, Germany, England and Portugal, agreed should be free and not be shut up by any one against the others. It was Mr. Stanley who proposed this plan.

TALKS ON THE MAPS.

VII.—AFRICA.

ON this map see the great desert in the north with the pleasant oases here and there where the date palms grow. There is a range of mountains north of this. Can you find it? These are the Atlas Mountains. Point to three cities on the coast held by the French. Spain, you see, almost touches Africa. What is the name of the passage which separates them and makes the gateway of the Mediterranean Sea? Find the famous river Nile. On which bank is the city of Cairo with all its strange sights? Think where the Pyramids must be, and put your finger on the place. Where does the Nile begin? Those lakes in the middle of Africa are very big though they look so little here. Put your finger on the place where Stanley found Dr. Livingstone. All the middle of Africa is a high plain. What two rivers break into cataracts and flow from this plain to the sea? What European people have come out and settled in South Africa?

The southern point of Africa is called Cape Colony, and is settled by the English. As the Cape of Good Hope is half-way on the long voyage to India, many vessels stop there going and coming. Here are ostriches, whose curling feathers ladies like to wear. They are kept in flocks on the South African farms. Diamonds are found here on the Orange and Vaal rivers. Gold is also found in South



OSTRICH

Africa, and as we know, when it is said that there is gold in a place, men flock in great numbers to the spot to dig for it, hoping to become rich all at once. But it is soon found that there must be food for so many people and houses to live in ; so some of the diggers stop digging, and plant or build instead ; for those who dig will give much of their gold for something to eat. In this way where gold is found, towns grow up very quickly. Two years ago in one of these places in South Africa, there were four tents and ten people ; now the place is a town, with fifteen thousand people, and churches and hotels of brick and stone.

LESSON XVIII.—What people once lived in North Africa? What is said of their works now? How did the people behave who have lived there lately? What did our government do about it? What did the French do? What is south of the Barbary States? What is said of caravans? What kind of countries along the east and west coasts? What of the negroes? Who brings the ivory to the shore? What kind of a country is the middle of Africa? What is said of the lakes? What of the missionaries? Tell something of Dr. Livingstone and of Mr. Stanley. What of the tribes far inland? What of the Congo Free State? What of Liberia? What of Cape Colony?

LESSON XIX.

AUSTRALIA.

You were told a little about Australia on page 46; but as this large country is a continent by itself, we will give it a chapter by itself.

Australia is the last settled and the smallest of the continents, though it is almost as large as Europe. It lies south-east of Asia, with the Pacific Ocean on one side and the Indian Ocean on the other. Those who know most about the way in which the lands have been formed, say that Australia must once have been joined to Asia, just as Africa is now joined to it by the isthmus of Suez; and that the great restless oceans beating and beating against it on both sides, at last washed away most of that part which joined them together, leaving only the islands which we find there now.

The name Australia means "Southern Land," and this continent lies wholly south of the equator; but as it reaches pretty nearly up to the line, you will see that it must have a warm climate. In fact, there is no really cold, snowy region in all the continent; and for the most part

the weather is very beautiful, and favorable to all kinds of plants and trees and fruits and flowers.

Australia is nearly as large as Europe, but it is more regular in shape; it has a rim of mountains near the coast, and the ocean is all around it. Not so much is known of it as is known of Europe, however; and this is because only about one hundred years have passed since Europeans first went to the island, and some parts of it are not yet settled. Handsome gum trees, three hundred feet high, which were there before Europeans went to Australia, are still found in the woods, but their fine forests are fast passing away.

The people who were living on this continent at the time it was found and taken possession of by the English, were not at all civilized or intelligent. Of course many of the same kind of people are living there now, and it is said of them that they know less than the savages of any other country.

At first the English people made use of this far-away land as a prison for the men who had to be sent off because of their bad lives; but by and by, what with the great number of these men and the many officers who had to guard them, and what with the daring people who thought this a good country to get rich in, there came to be quite a large population. Most of the people were English, Scotch and Irish.

They found on this great island a favorable climate. There were wide spaces where cotton and wheat and grapes and every other kind of grain and fruit could be raised, vast plains suitable for feeding sheep and other cattle; there were the waters of the ocean all about for the fishing-trade, and around the coast a great number of pearl-oysters.

And the harbors were good, so that ships were perfectly safe in them.

So this country became quite populous and very rich in a short time. Large towns grew up along the coast almost as fast as the wheat grew in the fields. A great trade sprang up with nearly all the countries of the world, so that the people had a market for everything they could raise, or make with their hands, or take out of the sea. By and by, they found, also, that they could take something out of the earth itself; for gold was discovered in the mountains that lie near the south-eastern coast, and you know what happens when gold is discovered in a country. If a great many people went to Australia before, so many more went to dig gold, or to sell things to those who were digging, that we can hardly think how many there were of them all. Besides the gold, they also found coal and copper; so that several new ways of earning money were gained. So Australia, though it is so new a continent, is one of the most important for its products.

But though the people have taken up a great deal of the land, not many have gone to live in that part which is far from the coast. This is partly because they have not yet had time, but a little more, perhaps, because the interior is not very easy to reach. There are no large rivers reaching far inland; and it is always harder to travel by land in a wild country. Rivers, as you know, are a sort of ready-made roads. Then the climate is not quite as good. Not so much rain falls in the interior, and the great plains are so dry — almost like deserts — that the people sometimes suffer for want of water. But we may be sure that men will plant their cotton and pasture their sheep farther

and farther inland, until the continent is all covered with fields and vineyards and towns.

To-day there are four great cities in Australia, — Melbourne, Ballarat, Adelaide and Sydney. These cities have schools and libraries, colleges, asylums, hospitals, churches,

and parks, like the other large cities of the world.

The country belongs to Great Britain, but the people really make their own laws and govern themselves.

Few people of the world are more free and prosperous or have a brighter prospect than the people of Australia.

Besides all this, Australia



EUCALYPTUS TREE.

is very interesting on account of the curious animals we find there — the kangaroo, the emu, a tall, swiftly running bird, black swans, white eagles, and the beautiful lyre-bird. There are rabbits, too, and so many of them that a little while ago the government offered a great reward to anyone who would show the people how to get rid of them.

And Australia is the country from which comes the helpful Eucalyptus tree. This is now planted in unhealthy places in many parts of the world, and where it grows the place is better for men to live in.

LESSON XIX.—Where will you look for Australia? What oceans around it? Is it north or south of the equator? What climate has it? How does it compare in size with the other continents? How long has it been well-known? To what nation does it belong? Why did people go to live in Australia? Tell some of the reasons why it is a good country to live in.

LESSON XX.

HOW AMERICA WAS FOUND.

SOME hundreds of years ago, when the nations of Europe were already civilized, and had towns with churches and schools, they did not know that there was another continent on the other side of the world; nor even that the world was round, and had another side.

But some men, here and there, began to have such ideas. One of these was a sailor, named Christopher Columbus. He had sailed wherever people went in those days; that is, along the coasts of Europe and Africa.

The East Indies, whence were brought cargoes of spices and other things that were sold for large sums of money, were the most distant countries visited then. The journeys were so long and costly, that the merchants could not buy and sell as fast as they wished.

Columbus thought that, if the earth were round, he could sail directly west across the Atlantic Ocean, and certainly come at last to the Indies; and so he would, if America had not been just in the way.

But Columbus had no ships of his own ; and rich people thought his notion so silly, that they would not help him.

At last, Queen Isabella of Spain gave him three little vessels, and he sailed on his voyage. On, on, they sailed,

days and nights, and the sailors were frightened at being so far from home ; but at last they came in sight of land, which they supposed to be the Indies.

They soon found themselves in the midst of islands, but quite different from those they expected to reach ; and these islands have ever since been called the West Indies, as the others were called the East Indies.

When Columbus went back to Spain and told the great news that they had

found other lands, the Spaniards were delighted, and began to send out vessels full of people to occupy these new lands, where it was so warm and pleasant.

They came in parties under different leaders, and sailed about in the Caribbean Sea,—some landing in South America, and some in that part of North America which is called Mexico. One of the captains who first landed on the continent was Amerigo Vespucci, and it used to be thought that the continent was named America from him. Many scholars now think America was the original Indian



COLUMBUS'S VESSELS.

name of a part of South America, and we know that was the first part of the main land discovered.

In most of these places the country was covered with thick forests, where no axe had been, where there were no roads or paths except those the wild deer had made, and no houses but huts of bark or skin. The people they saw were nearly naked, copper-colored, and speaking a language the Spaniards had never heard. As they had at first called the land *Indía*, they called these people Indians; and so they are still called.

But in two places, that is, in Mexico in North America, and Peru in South America, they found cities, and people living in them who could make cloth and vessels of different kinds, and work in gold and silver.

The Spaniards were so crazy at the sight of this gold, that they thought only of getting what they could. They soon began fighting the Indians, and driving them off. They claimed the country for Spain, and more and more people came over and made settlements. Soon thousands of white men were busy digging gold and silver from the rich mines in the Andes.

The Dutch and English began to think it would never do to let the Spaniards have all the New World, and their kings sent out vessels to claim land for them also. The English vessels sailed farther north, and landed on the east coast of North America, where they found neither a pleasant country nor gold. They tried several times; but it was many years before any settlements were made. At last a party of Englishmen landed about half-way down the coast, and called the place Virginia. They did not find gold, but rich lands where tobacco would grow, and great forests. Two years later, a Dutch vessel sailed up the

Hudson River, and settlements were soon made there by the Dutch. Another settlement was made farther north, in Massachusetts, by the Pilgrims, who left England because they could not have religious freedom. This was called the Plymouth Colony.

A *colony* is any settlement in a strange land by a company of persons from some distant nation. For a long time those early settlements in North America were called English colonies, and those of South America, Spanish colonies.

Though they had great trouble and suffering from hunger and cold, and much fighting with the Indians, the North-American colonies grew larger, the people built more comfortable houses than the rough cabins they had at first, and more persons came from England every year. New settlements were made, until they reached all along the strip of land on the coast between the ocean and the Alleghany Mountains.

The settlements were ruled by governors sent from England ; but, after some years, the people in the colonies did not like this government, for they had to pay the king a good deal of money, and could not manage their affairs in their own way. After great trouble, they determined that they would have no more rulers from England, but would be a nation by themselves, and have nothing more to do with the king. An army of soldiers was sent over from England, and fought with the people in the colonies for several years. The colonists won at last, and formed a new nation, called the American nation.

These colonies agreed to join together and become the United States, having one ruler over all, called a President ; and they chose for their first president George Washington, who had been their leader in the war.

The first States were those along the Atlantic coast; but, after the war, many people came to America from other parts of the world, and crossed the mountains to find more land, of which other States were made, until now the United States of America reach from the St. Lawrence River to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. They also own a country up in the far north-west called Alaska.

The President, with those who help him govern, lives in the city of Washington, on the Potomac River.

Each State has also its own governor and laws.

The city in each State where the governor lives, and where the laws are made, is called the *Capital*; and the building in which the men meet together who are chosen to make the laws, is called the *State House*, or *Capitol*.

The English still own all the northern part of North America, except Alaska in the north-west corner, and Greenland, in the north-east corner, belonging to Denmark.

The Spanish colonies in South America also fought with Spain, and became free States, with presidents; and the people there whose great-great-grandfathers came from Spain speak Spanish, just as we speak English.

Mexico is also an independent country; and the Mexicans, too, are descended from the Spaniards.

A large country in South America was settled by the Portuguese, and is called Brazil.

LESSON XX. Why did people first think of trying to sail from Europe across the Atlantic? Who wished to try? How did he get vessels and men? What land did they find? What happened when Columbus went home? Why was the new continent called America? Why is it sometimes called Columbia? What did the Spaniards find here? Why did they call the natives Indians? What two places were

different from the rest? Why did the Spaniards stay there? Who sailed to North America? Where did the English first land? Where did the Dutch settle? Where did the Pilgrims land? What is a colony? What is said of the North-American colonies? How were they governed? What difficulty did they have with England? What happened at last? Who was our first President? What States were then settled? Where does the President live? What is the capital of a State? What part of North America do the English still own? What became of the Spanish colonies in America? What is Mexico? Where did the Portuguese settle in the New World?



LESSON XXI.

SOUTH AMERICA.

In the north of South America are the states of Colombia, Venezuela, and the colonies of British, Dutch and French Guiana. There are several large cities, and many small towns. Near the mountain ridges are thick forests, twined with flowering vines. Throughout the country are plantations of coffee, groves of orange trees, great patches of pine-apples and bananas, and broad green fields of sugar-cane. In British Guiana the cane is planted in rows about six feet apart, and many little canals run through the fields, some to carry the water the plants need and others to float the boats that carry the cane and other things about the place. For you know it is much easier to carry things by water than by land, and a mule can tow a very heavy boat loaded with cane. When the canes are cut down they are carried to the mill and ground. Much of the juice comes out in the grinding, but not quite all, and the ground cane is pressed between stones and in other ways till all the sweetness is taken out. The juice is then

boiled or heated by steam, and other things are put into it to make it clear and white ; and at last the sugar is ready for our tables. Molasses, too, is made from the sugar cane. Who does all the hard work ? Not the Indians, who have always lived in South America, for they do not like to work, but would rather hunt in the forests. Many eastern laborers have been hired and brought over from China and India, so that you hear laborers on these sugar plantations called Aladdin and Mohammed and Saladin, as if they had just stepped out of the "Arabian Nights." Laborers hired in this way are called "coolies."

The woods of *Guiana* are lively with monkeys of different kinds. There are the howling monkeys. As they are sitting all together on the trees, an old monkey will set up a horrible rattling noise, "Rochu! rochu!" and all the others join in with a bellowing which can be heard miles away, and then all is still again. Some go about in pairs, thirty together, and have a gentle, low cry ; and some have glossy nice hair which they take great pains to keep smooth. There is a little monkey, too, about as large as a grey squirrel, which has a white face and a black snout, and sucks its thumbs like a child. The tip of a monkey's tail is sensitive, or feels, like our fingers. Indeed his tail is every way a very useful thing to have, for he twists it round the branch of a tree and swings himself across to another branch ; and when he is climbing, you can hardly tell what is tail and what is foot or hand, for he uses them all in the same way.

Brazil is a large country, first settled by Portuguese. It contains the Amazon valley. It has a pleasant climate, and fields of coffee, sugar-cane and cotton, besides rich diamond and gold mines. As there is no winter, the leaves

do not all fall off, and there are ripe oranges all the time. If you have ever seen the little plants that are kept in hot-houses, and bear a few oranges, you can think how beautiful are large trees with quantities of golden fruit, and rich clusters of white flowers that make the air sweet all around.



COFFEE.

And you would like to see coffee growing; for the bushes are very beautiful. They are as large as small plum trees, and have leaves of dark, shining green, and white flowers. The fruit is a soft, red berry, which contains two hard grains, the flat sides of which fit together and make it round. These berries are gathered in deep baskets, and carried to a great stone pavement, where the red, juicy part of the berry is rubbed off, and then the hard grains are spread out to dry. When dried, they are put in sacks, and sent to some coast-town, where vessels are ready to take them to other countries. Very good coffee is sent away from several different ports of South America; but much of the coffee used in our country comes from Rio Janeiro, a large city on the coast of Brazil, and one of the chief seaports of South America.

The work on the plantations has been done till lately by negro slaves; but in 1888 the rulers and the people said there should be no more slaves in Brazil, and all men in that great country are now free. From Italy, Portugal and Spain, men have gone with their families to live in Brazil, because the climate is as pleasant as their own, and they have more room. Now, since Brazil has freed her slaves, many more people from these countries, as well as from Russia and Germany, go there to settle.

On the west coast are the states of Ecuador, Peru and Chile, with cities high up in the mountain valleys and on the table-land. Bolivia is wholly inland. Quito in Ecuador and Lima in Peru are some of the largest cities.

The mountains are rich in minerals. Much silver was once sent from these mountains and the mines are still worked. In Peru are the ruins of those wonderful cities found by the early Spanish settlers. Here was the famous empire of Peru, which was long ago conquered by the Spaniards. When those rough soldiers climbed the mountains and found up here, not savages, but a gentle Indian people, with great roads and temples and palaces and gardens, they wondered greatly.

In the mountains were gold and silver, and the Peruvians had made the palaces of their emperors or incas handsome with animals and plants made out of these precious metals.

The incas bathed in basins of gold, and the water was led from the springs through silver pipes. They had pleasure-gardens too, and beside the living plants were imitations of them in gold.

The Spaniards had not seen Indian corn in their own



AVENUE OF PALMS IN RIO JANEIRO

country, so the living plant was strange and new ; but when they saw the yellow ear made of gold and the broad leaves and light tassel at the top of silver, they thought it wonderfully beautiful ; and indeed you would have thought so too.

Besides the Indian corn, the Spaniards found the potato growing up on these mountains of Peru. They carried some of the plants to Europe, where people had never had potatoes before.

Chile is a narrow strip of land on the western slope of the Andes and extends from Peru to Cape Horn. In the northern part is found a substance called nitrate, of much value, because when mixed with earth, it helps produce fine crops. Much nitrate is sent away to other countries.

Valparaiso, in Chile, is the chief seaport on the western coast.

On the mountains of South America grows a tree which is a great blessing to all people, but most to those who travel in unhealthful places. This is the tree that is called Cinchona, out of which the medicine called quinine or Peruvian bark is made. Without this good medicine, white men could not travel in Africa and see where the great rivers rise, or teach the poor natives. Without this, the Englishmen with all their soldiers would have to leave India and go home. But if a man has this medicine in his pocket, he feels much safer in dangerous climates.

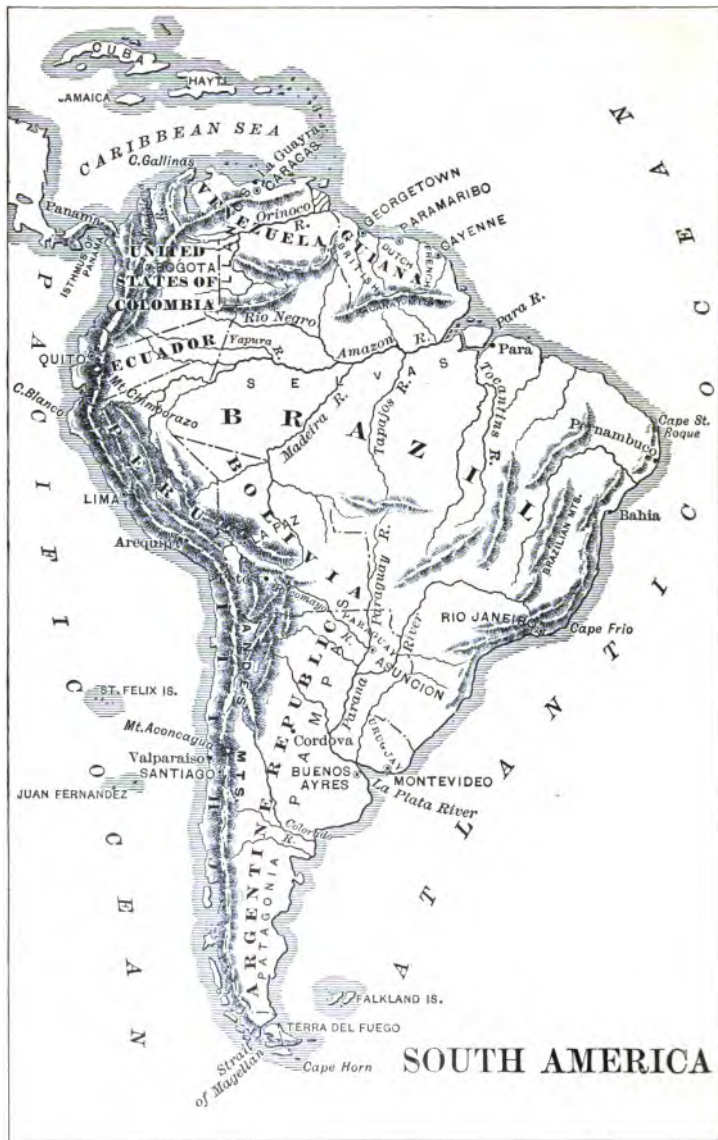
When the Spaniards conquered this country and had governors here, the wife of one of the governors, the good Countess of Cinchona, had a fever and was cured by a medicine made from the bark of this tree. She carried the bark home with her to Spain, that the sick people

there might take it and get well; and so other people learned about this wonderful tree and called it Cinchona, from the good countess.

It grew in the mountains as far south as Bolivia, but the natives did not know how to be careful of it, and did not understand how precious it was. They used to strip off all the bark from the tree, and then, as we all know, it could not live. If we should even cut a small piece of bark all round a tree it must die, for the sap could not run up to the branches and leaves, since its way is just between the tough bark and the hard wood. There was danger that this good tree would die out altogether.

Now the Dutch wanted to make it grow in their hot island of Java, where people would be ill without it, and the English wanted it in India, so men were sent to South American woods to take up some of the young trees and bring them away, and the seeds as well. This was not easy, for the trees grow in awful chasms and on the steep mountain-sides, and where icy peaks rise into the sky and where waterfalls tumble and roar in the deep gorges, over which the traveller must go on slender, swinging bridges of rope. The path is often so narrow that, as a man rides along, one leg touches the mountain and the other hangs over the deep abyss. It was hard to carry the little trees safely to the shore, and sometimes, after all, they would die; but at last after patient trying, the English have made the good tree grow in India and the Dutch in Java.

And they have found a wise way of taking off the bark, so that the tree is not hurt at all. A man makes a little cut as high as he can reach, and tears off a strip down to the ground. Then he leaves a space, and tears off another strip, and so on. And between the torn strips, the



TALKS ON THE MAPS.

VIII. — SOUTH AMERICA.

SEE the long range of mountains close to the western coast. What is its name? On the east is a long slope to the ocean. Here are the great rivers. How many are there and which is largest? Find the plains where great herds of cattle feed and where horsemen go out to catch them with a lasso? Where shall we find the mines? You will see that at the very southern point of South America there is an island. Vessels often go between this island and the mainland. What is that strait called? It is named from the man who first sailed through it.

sap can go up to the branches just as before. He ties some soft moss on the torn places, and in about twenty months a new bark has formed, which can carry the sap. Then the bark is torn off from the spaces between these, and thus on the tree is all the time growing the bark that makes the sick well.

The Argentine Republic is one of the large and prosperous countries of South America and extends on the wide eastern slope of the mountains as far as Cape Horn. On its pampas or plains many cattle and sheep are fed, and hides, sheepskins, horns, wool, tallow, meat preserved in cans and extract of beef are all sent away from the city of Buenos Ayres near the mouth of the La Plata River. This fine city is about as large as Rio Janeiro in Brazil and each is larger than Boston, St. Louis or Baltimore. They are the largest cities of South America. The soil of this region is good and many people have come here from Italy, France, Spain, England and Germany. They produce wheat and maize as well as cattle. The little states of Uruguay and Paraguay have similar soil and productions. It is dangerous to sail around Cape Horn, because of the high, stormy winds and icebergs of the Southern Ocean, and vessels often go through the Straits of Magellan. The cape does not reach far enough south to be among the icebergs: but sometimes one floats northward; and, if it is night, a ship passing by may be crushed in a moment. Cape Horn is not a part of the main land, but of an island near the island of Tierra del Fuego, which is separated from Patagonia by the Straits of Magellan.

LESSON XXI. — What is said of the States in the northern part of South America? What does sugar come from? What may be seen in the woods of Guiana? What is said of Brazil? How does coffee grow? Where does much of our coffee come from? What mines

in the Andes? What of the cities? What of Peru? Tell something of the old empire of Peru? What of earthquakes? What useful tree grows on the mountains? What is said of the Pampas? What country in the South?

LESSON XXII.

NORTH AMERICA.

As this is our home, we wish to learn all we can about it and to remember all that we learn. Besides being our home, it is one of the largest and finest of the continents. You see that the land is longest from North to South, and lies in every zone. In this way it has every climate from very cold to very hot, so that it produces many kinds of useful plants. There are hot lands in the south for cotton, sugar, and rice. There are temperate lands for wheat, corn, hay, fruits, and forest trees, — such as hickory, ash, beech, walnut, cherry, oak, and others, which furnish hard wood for planks, houses, furniture, and boats. Farther north are pine woods and fur-covered animals.

BRITISH AMERICA.

The best part of North America belongs to the Americans, though the English have a large country, the Dominion of Canada, comprising nearly all the northern part. Portions of this are cold and dreary, and thinly settled.

The Mackenzie River runs through British America to the Arctic Ocean, and some other rivers flow into Hudson Bay. There are few towns or roads, and no steamboats on the waters; but there are some forts on Hudson Bay, with cabins near, where the men live who go there to buy furs from the Indian or white

hunters. They keep powder and shot, blankets, beads, knives, and such things, to give in exchange for the skins. These skins are sent away to be sold and made into furs.

A wild forest with many lakes reaches across the southern part of British America from the Ottawa river to Lake Winnipeg. West of this lake is a broad, fertile prairie to the foot of the Rocky Mountains. Here are farmers planting oats, rye, wheat, and potatoes, and having nice, comfortable houses to live in. Many of them have come from England and like still to feel that they are on English land. The crops from these wide prairies are sent to Winnipeg, a large town on the Lake, with handsome churches and schools, mills, banks, and hotels, — a fast-growing town out here in what was lately wilderness.

At the foot of the mountains are great herds of cattle feeding where they will. There is a lively time when in spring and autumn the owners gather them in.

A railroad runs all across this country from Montreal to Vancouver on the Pacific. Where it crosses the Rocky Mountains and then the Selkirks, there are very high peaks, and among the Selkirks are glaciers far larger than any in Switzerland.

Along the St. Lawrence is quite a different sort of country, the most thickly settled of these English possessions. This is far enough to the south to be somewhat pleasant, though the winters are long and the snows deep.

In the deep woods of Canada and Maine you might see the curious work of the little beavers. They have sharp, cutting teeth, and with these they cut through trees and branches, living on the soft inner bark of the willows, poplars and birches, or on roots and grass. It is wonder-

ful to us that these little furry creatures, about two feet long, know so much. They make houses for themselves on the banks, or on a little island of a stream, and lay the poles together like an Indian wigwam. These they cover over with smaller sticks and with mud and grass.



BEAVERS AT WORK.

Inside is a room where you would see the grassy bed of the father beaver on one side, of the mother beaver on the other, and of the little beavers. There are two holes underground,—one is the way out, and the other is the way to the pile of food. This food is the sticks they cut in the summer; and these they have brought, one by one, to the water, and piled them upon the bottom, reaching quite above the surface, so that the weight keeps them down on the bottom till the ice comes and holds them fast. Then when the ice forms, the food is shut in safely.

The little beaver must always be sure that his food is under water, but he cannot be quite sure that some day the mountain stream will not be dry, and leave him with no sheltered way under water to his food pile. So the wise little fellow builds a dam across the stream to keep in

the water ; and this is indeed a great piece of work. The trees must be cut down by his sharp teeth, dragged to the stream, floated down and laid across, just in the right place. Then, on the up-stream side, brush must be filled in, and mud must be plastered on, till the dam is water-tight. The beavers know it is easier to bring their trees by water than by land, so they often dig little canals and float the trees along. People say when a man works well that he "works like a beaver."

There are some large cities on the St. Lawrence, and ships sail up a long distance. Montreal is a pretty city, built on an island in the river ; and Quebec is on the top of a huge, rocky cliff, that rises like a wall from the St. Lawrence. These are French names, and all through the country are farmers, — men and women with rather queer dresses, who speak a kind of mixed French. We should wonder how this could happen in English land, if we did not know that long ago, before the English gained possession, French vessels had sailed up the St. Lawrence, and brought people to settle on its banks.

After a time, the French and English in Europe began to fight, and the English colonies in America fought the French colonies ; and, after a deal of trouble on both sides, the French colonies were given up to England, and still belong to her.

THE ESQUIMAUX.

That great north-eastern point of land, called Greenland, belongs to the Danes, who live in the north of Europe. It is one of the coldest countries in the world, and the most of it is always covered with snow and ice.

Instead of busy merchants with trading vessels, only a few ships, with very brave, hardy captains, pass by, endea-

voring to find an open way into the Pacific, or to reach the north pole. Some are so frozen into the ice that they never get out ; and the men perish with cold and hunger. A few come home again, after trying two or three years to get farther north, having been frozen into the ice for months at a time. Whalers, too, often stop here.

This country is so near the pole, that, for nearly half the year, the sun is not seen at all. The reason of this you cannot understand at present. Instead of the pleasant



EIDER DUCKS.

days and nights that we have, there is here one long day for many months, and then a tiresome, dark night, just as long.

The people who live in this dreary land are called Esquimaux. They make houses of snow, that look like great ovens, with only a little hole for a door ; and they think only of getting food and clothes.

They pass the long day, or their summer, in hunting bears, gathering the down of eider ducks, spearing seals and whales, and sometimes going far over the waters in their little canoes to catch fish. On the land they often ride on sledges made of bone, and drawn by large dogs. Women and men work together, trying to get as many skins as they can, besides fat meat, and oil for their lamps, which they need in the long nights.

These Esquimaux are a filthy people, and dozens of men, women, and children crowd together in one of the hovels. The only fire they have is a quantity of fish-oil burning in a lamp, and by this they cook their food. They all dress alike, in caps, coats, and boots made of skins.

You must not think that these people stay indoors all the dark night. Though they cannot go far off, hunting, as in their day, they walk about in the keen night air, when the stars are shining clear and bright. And, besides the stars, there are other strange lights, such as shining balls and crosses, gleaming like silvery flames in the dark sky. The most beautiful of all is a crown of rosy light all across the sky, called the Northern Light, or *Aurora Borealis*. It is a great comfort in the long nights. We sometimes see a very little of it here.

I dare say the Esquimaux are glad to see the sun come back and stay a little longer every day, until there is one long, bright day again, and the sharp points of the huge icebergs glitter and sparkle grandly, and the snowy ground is dazzlingly white.

Towards the south of Greenland the cold is not quite so severe, and a few stunted plants grow in the short summer. The people build their huts of pieces of wood that drift on shore from the ocean. There are some large villages, at

which vessels stop for oil and other things, and where missionaries go to teach the people.

Far up in the north-west part of North America is *Alaska*, a country that belongs to the United States. It is a cold country. The high mountains rise steeply very near the sea, and the great glaciers, between their snow-covered



ONE KIND OF SEALS.

sides, flow into the ocean. The water is deep, and large pieces of ice are all the time breaking off from the glaciers, at the water's edge, with a noise like cannon. Then they float away and we call them icebergs. Mt. St. Elias is a grand mountain, one of the highest in the world.

Here are found the fur-seals which give the sealskin for ladies' cloaks and muffs. But we must not think of the

seal as swimming about in a sealskin coat such as these. His coat is not glossy and dark, but covered with stiff hair of a dull grayish-brown. Under this stiff overhair lies the soft fur; and much time, with careful work, is needed to take off the coarse hair, without hurting the skin and soft fur beneath. Even when that is done, the fur, which is of a light brown, is dyed several times, until at last the soft, glossy fur is ready to wear. The best dyeing is done in London. It is not hard or at all dangerous to kill the poor seals—for at some seasons they come up in great numbers to the shore to take care of their young. The seal, you remember, although it finds its food in the sea, must come up to the air to breathe.

LESSON XXII:—Why should North America be rich and well peopled? What part belongs to England? What is said of it? What is said of Canada? What might you see in the woods? What cities there? Why are there many French people in Canada? What kind of country is Greenland? What people live there? How do they live? What is the Northern Light? What of the south part of Greenland? What is said of Alaska?



LESSON XXIII.

MEXICO.

ALL the middle part of North America is our own; but south of the United States is quite a large country, called Mexico.

Long ago when the people in the Old World first found this great Western Hemisphere, a number of Spaniards sailed from the islands where they had first landed, through the Gulf of Mexico, to the land on the other side of the gulf. This was a warm, beautiful country, covered with

rich forests and bright flowers. They troubled themselves very little about the people already there, because they believed, that, having found this new country, it was theirs by right ; at any rate, they intended to take it for the King of Spain.

These men landed on the coast, where they saw a dark-skinned people, somewhat like the islanders, half naked and very ignorant. But, as they went farther into the country, they came to villages where the people were better clothed, had houses to live in, and often spoke of a great city and a powerful king for whom they seemed to have much fear and respect.

When the Spaniards learned these things from their interpreters, they were in a great hurry to reach this wonderful city ; and as they were bold, hardy men, with a fierce, brave captain to lead them, they did not mind difficulties. They climbed up the mountains, and made long, tiresome marches through the woods, forcing the natives to show them the way.

I cannot tell you all the troubles the Spaniards had, nor all the cruel things they did. At last they reached the top of a high ridge ; and all at once, on the other side of the mountain, the most splendid view they had ever imagined was spread before them.

A beautiful, level valley stretched out for miles, with a wall of faint blue mountains rising around it. Sparkling streams wound about through groves of palms and fruit-trees ; and far below them, in the midst of this plain, was a great city, with houses, streets, and large temples ornamented with gold and silver.

The Spaniards were filled with wonder. In the islands and other known parts of the continent there were only painted savages, with skins for clothes, and huts of bark ;

who knew nothing about building, nor weaving, nor books. But here, shut in among the mountains, were those strange-looking Mexicans, with a king, and temples for their gods; and who could make cloth, ornaments of gold and silver, and vessels of earthenware, and even had a kind of picture-writing.

The white men had expected to find great quantities of gold in the new world that had been discovered, and now looked eagerly down upon the rich city below. Here was

treasure at last; and they determined to lay hold of whatever they could find.

Long, bloody fights took place. There were a great many Mexicans, and only a few white men: but the Spaniards had steel swords and guns, and wore coats of steel, or *armor*, on their bodies; while the Mexicans knew nothing of gunpowder, had only bows and arrows, and wore light cotton clothes; so that, while they fell by hundreds, their arrows could not go through the armor of the Spaniards.



MEXICAN COCOANUT PALM.

After that time, Spaniards settled in different parts of the country, and sometimes mingled with the natives; so that now, though the people are called Mexicans, and have nothing to do with

Spain, they all speak Spanish, instead of the language of the old Mexicans. Scattered tribes of Indians still wander about in the wild places among the ridges of the Rocky Mountains.



GATHERING OCHINEAL.

Mexico is chiefly in the torrid zone, and resembles the Southern States. Oranges, bananas, and cocoanuts grow there, and great quantities of prickly-pear, which is very

TALKS ON THE MAPS.

IX. — NORTH AMERICA.

ON the western side see the long range of the Rocky Mountains. There is a short range on the east. What is its name? Between these mountain ranges we should expect to see a great river. And what do we find? Look at the mouth of the Mississippi. You will see that just at that point the land comes out a little into the Gulf of Mexico. That tells us that the river and all its branches have been washing away soft earth and sand from the banks and carrying them to the ocean. When the river reaches the ocean the mud settles at the bottom and so, little by little, more land is built up about the mouth of the river. How does the water of the Great Lakes reach the ocean? Find the country where the Esquimaux live? Has any one ever sailed through the Arctic Ocean from the Atlantic to the Pacific? Why not? Put your finger on the little strip of land which holds North America and South America together. What would be the use of cutting a canal across this strip of land?

useful on account of a tiny bug that feeds on it. From these bugs a beautiful red dye is made, called *cochineal*, which is used for coloring candy and many other things. The prickly-pear is planted in long rows; and the bugs increase until the leaves are quite covered with them. Then they are carefully brushed off, killed by heat, packed, and sent to other countries. (See page 215.)

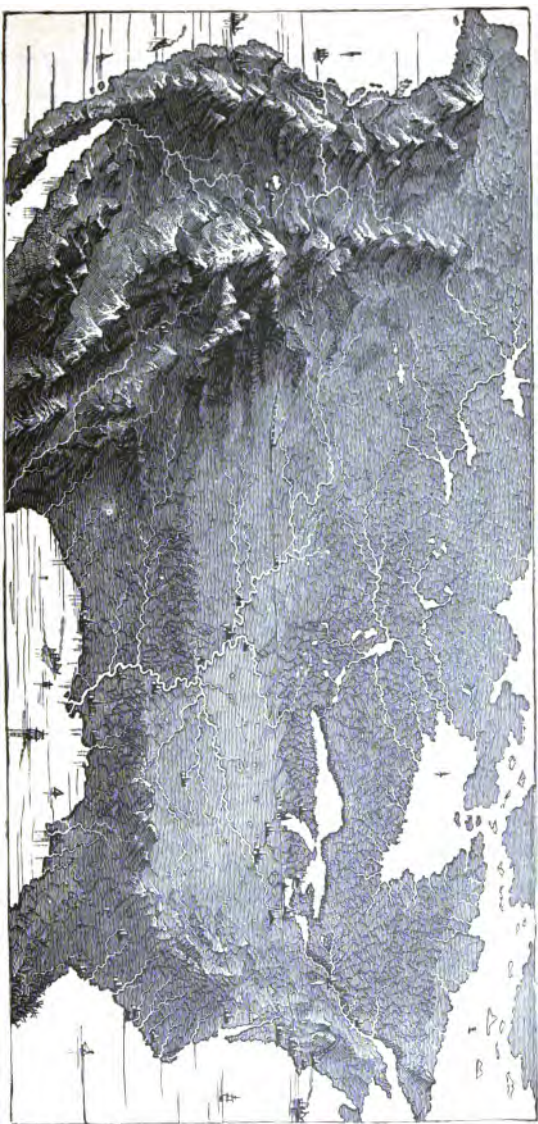
The Mexicans do not care as much for schools as we do, and the children know very little about other lands; but they are all very fond of singing and dancing. These people like fine clothes and jewelry; and gentlemen have their saddles and bridles made very gay with gold, silver, and colored fringes.

Mexico is the largest city, and Vera Cruz is the chief seaport.

That narrow part of North America which lies between Mexico and the Isthmus is called Central America, and the people are much like the Mexicans. Many vessels go there for the wood of the mahogany tree, which is so much used.

The Isthmus of Panama is only a few miles wide; but these few miles made a tedious journey before the railroad was built, because of the range of hills which travellers to and from California must cross.

A canal has, you remember, been already cut through the Isthmus of Suez which joins Africa to Asia, so that ships going from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean no longer have to sail all the way around Africa. How convenient it would be to have such a canal cut through the Isthmus of Panama! Then ships need not take the long dreary way round Cape Horn. This canal will not be so easy to make as the African canal, for the land is higher.



THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

This picture shows how our country might look to a little bird high up in the sky, if he could see very far.

More than one canal has been planned and partly built, and before many years ships will probably be sailing through from one ocean to the other.

LESSON XXIII. — What part of North America did the Spaniards first find? What people did they find? What did the Spaniards learn as they went farther into the country? What did they do? What did the natives think of them? What did they find at last? How did the Mexicans differ from them? What plants in Mexico? What is cochineal? What is said of the people? What is the largest city? The chief seaport? What is said of Central America? What of a canal?

LESSON XXIV.

THE UNITED STATES AND TERRITORIES.

OUR COUNTRY. — All the vast middle lands found on the map of North America, with Alaska in the Northwest, belong to the Americans, as the people of the United States are called.

Many people have come here from old and crowded countries, and have moved on farther and farther from the coast of the Atlantic, until now they are scattered over all the great space reaching from ocean to ocean, and from the St. Lawrence River to the Gulf of Mexico. Over all these thousands of miles are railroads and turnpikes, and steamboats on the rivers, so that people can travel quickly to far-off places.

As the Indians were driven back by the white men, they moved farther west to find new hunting grounds. They do not like to live in towns; and though a few tribes have learned to live like white people, and many have died out,

there are many tribes left in the forests and plains near the Rocky Mountains, where the country is still covered with woods and wild prairie-lands.

These people loved their homes as we love ours, and their own way of living, although it was not at all like ours. But they have had to move farther and farther, as the white man pressed behind. We were great and strong, and should have taken care of them in some wise and kind way. But we have not done so. And so some of the tribes have killed the men who had built their houses far out on the lonely prairie and have done many cruel things, knowing no better,—and soldiers had to be sent out to bring them to order.

People have now begun to think there must be some better way than this and are trying to find one. Our government is asking the Indians now to let their girls and boys come to our schools to be taught. There are several of these schools for the Indians, in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Nebraska, the Indian Territory, and in other places, and more than 9000 children are learning our ways. Very few tribes seem to hate us now.

We have given to each tribe also some land for its own, and no white man must go there to trouble the Indians or to take their land away. There are several of these Indian countries, called Reservations, because the land is kept or reserved for them alone. There are large Reservations in New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Montana, besides the large Indian Territory, and there are many smaller Reservations.

Small settlements of our own people are scattered about over the far western country, in some places forming villages, or neighborhoods; while in others there are only lonely farms, or here and there hunters' huts, many miles

apart. Such parts of the country as these are not called States, but *Territories*.

All the great space belonging to us between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, is divided into States or Territories of different sizes ; and on the Atlantic coast is the long row of the old States that were first settled, and that fought the English on one side, and the Indians on the other, when the rest of the country was still forest land. There are only three States on the Pacific coast — California, Oregon and Washington.

More than a hundred years have now passed since the American colonies united, and made a nation of themselves. As they had come from the same country, and spoke the same language, they managed to agree upon a certain number of laws or rules to govern all the States, which were then called the United States of America. But, even at first, some persons were not entirely satisfied ; and as years went by, and new States farther west and south were added to the old ones, and new laws were made, it was still harder for all to be pleased with the laws that the States agreed to obey. Therefore there was much arguing and disputing from time to time, and one or two laws especially caused great trouble. Some of the States wanted one thing, and some another, and gradually gathered into parties, which began to dislike and abuse each other all they could. For a time, the best and wisest men tried to keep them at peace, knowing that, unless all our States were united, we should no longer be a powerful nation. But at last the Southern or Slave States declared they would leave the Union, and make laws for themselves. The other States insisted that they had no right to do this, and that the nation should not be broken up. So we have

had a terrible war in our beautiful country, and all has been difficulty and confusion ; but we now have peace again, with our States once more united, and with no longer any slavery in our free land.

LESSON XXIV.—Where are the United States? What of the country around the Rocky Mountains? What has become of the Indians? What are the thinly settled parts of the country called? Where are the oldest States? What States on the Pacific coast? How long since the colonies united? Why have we had a war lately?

LESSON XXV.

THE ATLANTIC STATES.

THESE States lie in the strip of land between the Alleghanies and the ocean, which slopes down from the mountains to the water. The parts near the sea are often sandy or marshy. On the sand grow pine woods. Toward the mountains the soil is richer, and produces fine fields of grain in the middle portion, and cotton in the southern.

When the early settlers came over to look for homes in the New World, they stayed, as was natural, near the sea-coast where they landed ; and thus it happened that the first part of our country settled was this long strip of land which lies between the Atlantic Ocean and the mountains.

In those days, men were not used to sailing across the ocean, and did not always know just where they might land. So the Pilgrims, instead of coming to a warm, pleasant land, such as Columbus, or even the Virginia settlers, had found, reached a rough, bare coast, all dreary with snow and ice and east winds. But they were brave,

firm-hearted men, who did not come pleasure-seeking : so they set about building their houses, and fighting the Indians, and they bore hunger and suffering of all kinds with steady courage, and soon they came to love their land as well as if it had been always warm and bright.

More and more settlers came, until all that part of the coast is now even more thickly peopled than the southern.

Here is plenty of work for all ; for, though there are no rich cotton or tobacco lands, there are, fortunately, many little streams running down the slope from the mountains, which, tumbling over rocks in their way, make excellent waterfalls. So all sorts of mills and factories have been built for sawing planks, weaving cloth, making paper, and many other things ; and these give work for thousands of hands.

Besides this, there is the great ocean, with good bays, and snug stopping-places for steamers and sailing vessels loaded with goods from France, England, and other countries. Here, then, is more business, — buying and selling the sugar, coffee, &c., that come in, and loading and unloading the ships.

Then, too, the useful things from abroad must be sent to the people living away from the sea, and exchanged for their grain and other products : so here is more business still, and railroads are needed in all directions.

Thus it has happened that this part of the country is now all alive with thousands of busy, bustling people, and covered with great cities, charming villages, and pretty cottages, dotted down on the hillsides and in the valleys.

There are six States here, which together are called New England.

The most northern of these States is Maine, and it is

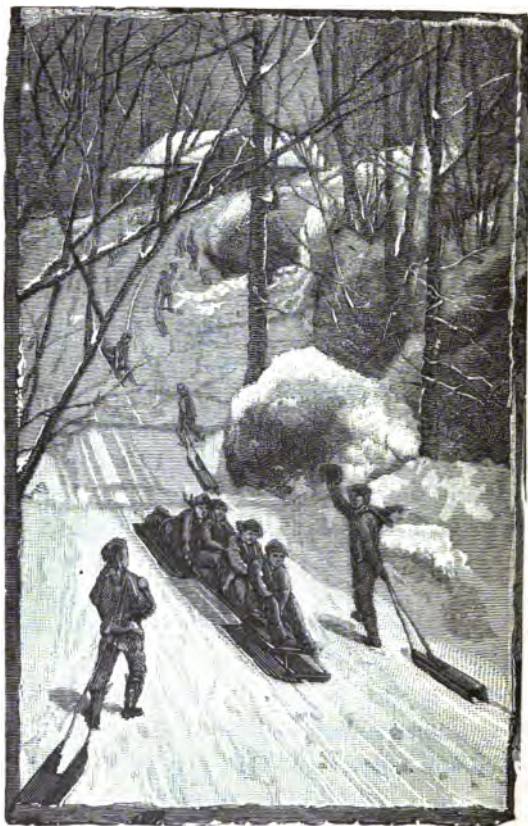
also the largest and least sett'ed. Most of the towns are in the southern part, where there is a long seacoast, with excellent harbors, and large rivers running into them. Toward the north, almost all the land is still covered with great forests : but every year the woodmen go deeper into these woods, where trees have never been cut before ; for Maine people think, as they have a long seacoast and good harbors, they cannot do better than use their great forests for ship-timber and lumber. So parties of woodmen go up the streams, and live in tents or huts by their banks while they are getting the logs ready to float down, very much as they do in the old country.

Then there is work for the streams to do ; for their waters turn the wheels of many a mill, cutting the big logs into boards and planks. Much of the lumber is sent off to other places, where there are no forests ; and the rest is used in those seaports, where ships are built, and launched upon the ocean.

Augusta is the capital of the State. Bangor is quite a large city, noted for its lumber trade ; but Portland is the great seaport, and has a busy trade. The people find their long coast convenient for fishing as well as ship-building.

Next to Maine are New Hampshire and Vermont, one with very little seacoast, and the other with none. But there are great forests ; and these, with high mountains, lakes, and little streams leaping in waterfalls down the hillsides, make a country so beautiful, that it is common, in summer, for people from the large cities, miles away, to journey in pleasure-parties to the White Mountains in New Hampshire, or to Vermont, where the hills are so covered with woods to their very tops, that they are called the Green Mountains. After the short summer, the streams

are frozen, the hillsides covered with deep snows, and the winters are long and hard ; but I have heard little folks



COASTING IN VERMONT.

say, that, for skating and sliding and coasting, no country in all the world can be better.

Besides the mountains and forests, there is plenty of

farming land, and the farmers are famous for their fine sheep and cows.

Montpelier is the capital of Vermont ; but there are no very large cities. Burlington is prettily situated on Lake Champlain.

Concord is the capital of New Hampshire, and Portsmouth is its seaport ; but the largest city is Manchester, with its long rows of factories. You may have heard of Manchester prints.

The other three New England States are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut ; all a good deal alike in many things. They are small States,— Rhode Island is the smallest in the Union,—and are so thickly settled, that often the pretty, neat-looking villages are not more than a mile or two apart ; and the country houses are so near together, that there is only room for small farms. Since there is so little land, and that not very rich, we see at once that the thousands of busy people who crowd the large cities, or have homes in the thriving villages, or build the country houses, cannot live by farming. There are many more people in these little States than in some which are much larger ; and all these hands and heads must find work in factories, in trading, in ship-sailing, in fisheries, and in such ways.

In most of these towns there are little streams of water, near which we are sure to see tall chimneys, and hear the puffing noise of steam-mills and the whirling of machinery. In the great brick factories, thousands of men, women, and children are busy every day, making cotton and woollen cloths, glass, nails, screws, and many other useful things ; and all this is done so wonderfully fast, that it is almost like fairy work, and beautiful to see. Most of these things are

sent from the town where they are made to the large cities, where they are sold to merchants from different parts of the country, or sent off on vessels across the sea. Millions of pairs of shoes are made every year in the towns of Massachusetts to send to all parts of the Union.

It was on the coast of Massachusetts that the Pilgrims first landed, and made the little town of Plymouth ; but, when more settlers came, they found a fine harbor farther up the bay, and began to build Boston. This is now the largest city in New England, with new streets and long rows of houses. There are some cities in our country larger and busier than Boston, but none with more schools and libraries.

Springfield and Worcester are quite large cities in the middle part of the State. Lowell with its busy factories is on the Merrimack.

Hartford and New Haven are the largest cities in Connecticut. Hartford is the capital. It is on the Connecticut River, in the central part of the State. New Haven, on the south shore, is famous for its beautiful elms. Both cities have important manufactures.

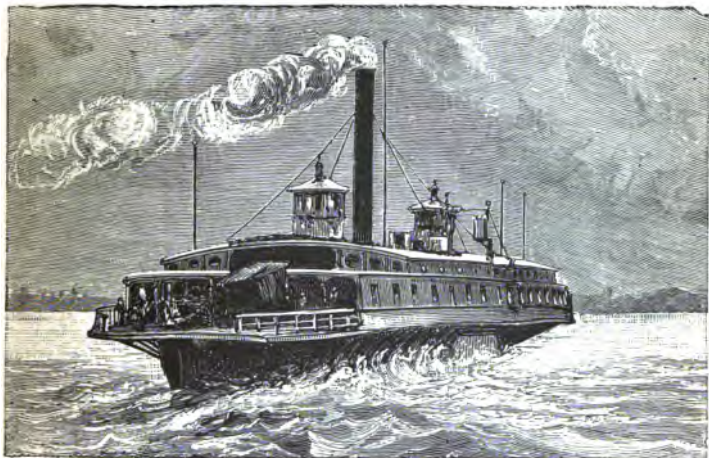
The little State of Rhode Island has two capitals, — Providence, a thriving city, and Newport, a favorite summer resort.

The largest river in New England is the Connecticut, which rises far northward, and runs south, separating Vermont and New Hampshire, and passing through the middle of Massachusetts and Connecticut into Long-Island Sound.

South-west of New England are the middle States, — New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

New York is a very large State, and reaches so far west, that there is room for great wheat fields and pastures.

Many barrels of flour and quantities of butter and cheese come from the farms of New York. This State is just in the line of travel from west to east, so that it has many railroads and a long canal. Besides being open to the Atlantic Ocean, it has a long coast on the large lakes, Erie and Ontario. Some ridges of the Alleghanies run through New York, and the beautiful River Hudson flows through the eastern part.



NEW YORK FERRY-BOAT.

New York City, at the mouth of the Hudson, is the largest city in America, and the best known in other lands. The country all round is rich and thickly settled, and there is a good harbor for vessels. Thousands of merchants from different parts of the inland States go to New York to buy new supplies of goods; and ships from abroad come here, where their cargoes can be sold quickly, and where they can be loaded with cotton, grain and other American products, to carry back to their own countries. There is

always a forest of masts in the bay ; and, every day, vessels come from and sail for all parts of the world. This is not only the busiest but the gayest of our cities, and every kind of amusement is to be found.

Albany, the capital of the State, is on the Hudson, and at the end of the great Erie Canal, which runs through the whole State. By means of this canal, which joins Lake Erie with the Hudson River, the vast produce of the West can be carried by water to the Atlantic Ocean, although the railroads now carry most of this.

Buffalo is on Lake Erie, and near the celebrated Falls of Niagara.

New Jersey has a long seacoast for its size ; but the shore is lined with little islands and sand-bars, which prevent vessels from coming near ; therefore we find no large towns on the seacoast. The Jersey people cannot trade much over the sea ; but they have some large factories, and their land is just suited for fruit. From their orchards come every year fine apples, delicious peaches, pears and cherries.

Trenton, the capital, is on the Delaware River.

Delaware, the smallest State except Rhode Island, has no seaport ; but it has a great many flour-mills and much fine wheat. Dover is the capital, but is not so large a city as Wilmington.

Pennsylvania has no seacoast ; but Delaware Bay runs up from the ocean, and receives the water of a large river of the same name. Philadelphia is a handsome city on this river.

The Alleghany Mountains run through this State, and are full of iron and coal. Hard coal is found in the eastern part of the state. This burns slowly, but with a strong

and steady heat, and makes little smoke. In the western part of the State is the soft coal country, and here is the city of Pittsburg, where tall factory chimneys are smoking, and big fires glowing day and night. You all know how useful coal is ; for, to say nothing of our grates and stoves, the huge factory fires would long ago have burned up all the wood that could be easily got. And then lighting gas is made from coal ; and, besides all this, from the black, smutty coal, people now make beautiful dyes for silk and wool, such as we often see in our ribbons.

Not very long ago, it was found out that by boring deep down into the earth and rock, at certain places in Pennsylvania, streams of oil would burst out. A great many people soon rushed to look for this wonderful oil ; and now there are many oil-wells, not only in that State, but also in Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as in several other States. I dare say the very youngest one among you has heard of *petroleum*, from which we have our kerosene oil. Near the petroleum wells a kind of gas has burst out from the earth, which burns as well as the gas we make from coal, and people have only to carry it in pipes into their houses where it is used for cooking and heating. This is called natural gas, and is found, like the petroleum, in other States as well as in Pennsylvania.

The southern half of the Atlantic slope reaches down into a warm climate ; and, as the rich land had never been cleared when the first settlers came, they had good reason to be charmed with this wonderful new country. Thick forests spread over it for miles and miles, and among the tall trees all manner of shrubs and plants sprouted up rankly from the rich soil. Often whole thickets were bound and woven in with heavy coils of grape-vine ; and the wild

jessamine hung in long festoons from tree to tree, and trailed from the high branches, making the air sweet with the rich odor of its yellow blossoms. In the sandy flats were great forests of pines, and under the dark green trees thousands of gay-colored flowers. Even now, the Carolina children know where to look for treasures in the "pine barrens."

Pleasant as this was, the settlers had troubles enough at first ; for they had no houses, no food, and had many quarrels with the Indians ; but they soon found maize, or corn, growing finely, which gave them plenty to eat, with but little work. They learned the use of tobacco from the Indians, and after a time raised great quantities of it, which they sent to Europe, and sold for good prices. By and by, they found that the soil and climate were just suited for cotton, so that there was work enough for all who would come ; and in time the country around was pretty well covered



RICE PLANT.

ered with tobacco-fields, corn-fields, and cotton-fields, and divided into the States of Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Now these States have large cities, and send out vessels to all parts of the world ; for, besides the cotton and tobacco, rice comes from South Carolina ; and the pine woods of North Carolina furnish tar and turpentine, and staves for hogsheads and barrels. From the leaves of the pine trees or "pine needles" comes, too, what is called "pine wool," used for mattresses, carpets and mattings.

Maryland is almost divided by Chesapeake Bay ; and near the head of the bay is Baltimore, one of our large cities. Annapolis, the capital, is also on the bay, and has a naval school, where boys are fitted for the United-States navy.



NATURAL BRIDGE, VIRGINIA.

The old State of Virginia is now divided into two States, called Virginia and West Virginia. Richmond, on James River, is the capital of Virginia ; and Charleston, on the Great Kanawha, is the capital of West Virginia.

The western part of Virginia is mountainous, and in many parts very picturesque. Here is the famous Shenandoah Valley, where so many battles were fought during the Civil War, with the wonderful caverns of Luray; and in this part, too, is the Natural Bridge, one of the most striking natural curiosities in the world.

Maryland and Virginia are especially the tobacco States.



TOBACCO PLANT.

They are separated by the Potomac; and just between them, lying on the eastern side of the river, is a small piece of land called the District of Columbia. This belongs to the whole country; and here is Washington, our national capital, where the President lives, and where there is a large, fine building called the Capitol, in which the Congress of the United States meets to make laws for the whole country. The members of Congress are chosen by the different States for this purpose.

In North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia are pine woods which cover much country and are of great value. A cut is made in the trees, from which the sap runs out, and from this sap come pitch, tar and turpentine. These are exported from Wilmington in North Carolina, from Charleston in South Carolina and from Savannah in Georgia.

South Carolina and Georgia have also great fields of cotton and rice. The cotton is no longer all sent away, to be woven elsewhere into cloth. Many cotton mills are now busy near where the cotton has grown.

Some of the finest cotton in the world is raised on the islands along the coast of South Carolina and Georgia, and is called Sea-Island cotton.

In these states is found a kind of rock which, when ground and added to the soil, makes it produce richer crops. This is called a fertilizer, and this useful rock is sent away in large quantities even to far-off countries.

In the harbors of Wilmington, Charleston, and Savannah you would not only see vessels loaded with the products of the pine woods, with cotton and rice, but you would also see large steamers loaded with fruits and early vegetables for the north.

In the western part of the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, among the mountains, are very different products from those of the eastern lowland. Here are rich beds of iron and coal, with limestone also. To get the iron out of the rock, we must have coal for the smelting fires, and lime is also used in this process. All along the mountains these are found conveniently near each other. Great iron industries are thus springing up as far as the end of the mountain ranges in northern Alabama, and the iron is becoming quite as important to these states as their cotton, rice and fruits.

Florida, as you see on the map, is a long, narrow peninsula. We owe a large part of it to the industrious little coral animals; and they are still busy, day and night, at their slow but sure work, building up new reefs and islands along the coast. All the southern part is very flat, — so flat and low, that there are great marshes called *everglades*. Here, since it is very warm, as well as moist, there is a thick growth of trees and plants that belong in tropical countries.

One of the first settlements on the continent of America was made at St. Augustine by the Spaniards. It is thought by some that because there were so many flowers here they called the country *Florida*, or flowery.

Many people go to Florida in the winter to enjoy the pleasant climate, and Jacksonville and St. Augustine are growing towns. New towns are springing up all through the State, except in the most Southern parts. Orange groves have been planted, and now Florida oranges are among the best we have. The orange tree also grows wild in Florida. But the fruit of the wild orange is bitter, so that no one picks it to eat, even when it grows in city streets, where the tree is planted for its shade and beauty. The grape-fruit too comes from Florida, and the pineapple, which is planted over large fields. In the southern part of the peninsula the climate is more tropical. At Key West bananas ripen and the cocoanut-palm is seen.

LESSON XXV.—Where are the Atlantic States? What part of our country was first settled? Why? Where did the Pilgrims land? How did they succeed? What of that part of the coast now? How are the people employed? What do ships bring to New England? What can they carry from it to other countries? Why are railroads needed? Which State is the most northern of the New-England States? What is said of it? What work do the people find to do? What cities in Maine? What States next to Maine? What is said of New Hampshire and Vermont? What amusements for children in the long winters? For what are the farmers famous? What is said of the cities? What are the other New-England States? Give the names of all the New-England States? Which is the smallest? What is said of these last three? What do the people do in these States? What becomes of their manufactures? Where did the Pilgrims land? Where is Boston? What is said of it? What other cities of Massachusetts are mentioned? What cities in Connecticut? What is the capital? What cities in Rhode Island? Where is

the Connecticut River? What States south-west of New-England? What is said of New York? What lakes touch it? What mountains and river in the eastern part? What is said of New York City? What is the capital of the State? Where is Buffalo? What is said of New Jersey? What of Delaware? Of Pennsylvania? Where is Philadelphia? Where is Pittsburg? For what is coal used? What is petroleum? What is the climate of the Southern Atlantic States? What did the first settlers find there? What troubles had they? What did they raise? What States in this part of the country? What comes from South Carolina? What from the pine barrens? What bay in Maryland? Where is Baltimore? Annapolis? Where is Richmond? How has Virginia been divided? What is the District of Columbia? What city there? What is said of it? What is said of North Carolina? Where is Charleston? Savannah? What is said of Florida? Why was it called Florida? What town did the Spaniards first build?

LESSON XXVI.

THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

As the Atlantic States became thickly settled, and people still came from the Old World, some of them began to make their way over the Alleghany Mountains to the country beyond. A few went because they liked the wild, lonely hunter's life in the forests; others because they were eager for new adventures; and still more because they could get plenty of land for little or nothing. Often whole families, who did not mind a hard, rough life, would pack up all they had in one or two wagons, and set out for a long journey through pathless woods,—the men on horseback, the women and children in the wagons; camping out at night, cooking and eating by a fire of logs and dry branches, until at last they chose a place for a home.

As they generally chose a spot where the land was good and water plenty, other families soon settled near them; living at first in log-huts, clearing the land for corn-fields, and fighting more or less with the Indians. If a man were industrious, he would, after a little while, build a large



IMMIGRANT WAGON.

wooden house. And as you ride through Ohio and Indiana you will often see, on a large farm, beside his nice, comfortable house, the little log cabin which the settler built first. So, town after town has grown up, roads have been made, forests cut down, and States divided off throughout the great central valley, from the Alleghanies to the Rocky Mountains.

THE GULF STATES.

The most southern States border on the Gulf of Mexico, which is as good as a sea-coast. Besides Florida, which

also borders on the Atlantic, there are Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. All these, together with Arkansas, just north of Louisiana, are cotton States.

The cotton-plants grow very large in the hot sun ; and in the fall, when the brown bolls burst open, the fields are white with the cotton, that pops out in balls as big as one's fist. It is then picked, cleaned of its seeds, and pressed into great bales. Many thousands of these bales are sent to England to be woven into cloth, besides what is woven at home and in the Northern States. In the South, many cotton factories have been established.



COTTON PLANT.

Alabama is not only a great cotton-raising state. It has also many iron furnaces in the north, where coal and iron are found near together, and where pig-iron can therefore be made

at small expense. Mobile, on a bay of the same name, receives and sends away much cotton.

In Mississippi, cotton and corn are the chief crops. Before the snow has melted at the north, southern gardens are producing peas and beans, with delicious strawberries and many other fruits and vegetables. These are sent north in large quantities on the railroads and steamers from Mississippi and other southern states.

Louisiana has large plantations which produce sugar, cotton and rice. The greater part of these crops is brought down the Mississippi and its branches and is shipped from New Orleans, the largest city of the South. Not only the crops from Louisiana, but those from a large part of Mississippi, Alabama and Texas are carried to

New Orleans and thence by steamers to all parts of the world.

There are many swamps and lakes in Louisiana, and the earth is thrown up in banks to keep off the water of the river. When one of the *levees*, as they are called, happens to be broken through, the water rushes upon the land beside the river and washes away everything in its path.

This State once belonged to the French, who settled there in old times ; and, though it is now one of the American States, there are many French families in New Orleans, — sometimes whole neighborhoods of them together ; and this makes it a little different from our other cities.

Texas is the largest state of the Union. It is six times as large as the state of New York ; larger than the eastern and middle states together, and larger than either France, Germany, or 'even Austria-Hungary, in Europe. It has thus a great variety in its productions, and in the occupations of its people. The eastern part extending from the Red River to the Gulf, and about one hundred and fifty miles in width, is covered with valuable timber, including long leaf pine, cypress, walnut, and sweet gum. This lumber is floated down to the mills on the rivers. The central belt extends in the same direction and of about the same width, and consists of vast fertile prairies, with post oak and other timber along the rivers. This is one of the best farming sections in the United States. Sugar and cotton are raised in the southern part of this belt ; corn, cotton and small grains of all kinds in the central and northern part. Texas raises one-fourth of the entire cotton crop of the United States. The country west of this central belt is devoted principally to cattle and sheep

raising, though the northern part, called the Texas Panhandle, is becoming famous as a great wheat-growing section. Texas has many minerals. Iron is found in the eastern and central belts ; coal and rock salt in the western and central ; granite and marble of excellent quality are found in the western belt. The Capitol at Austin is built of Texas red granite.

Dallas, an inland city, is the largest town. San Antonio, the oldest city, and one of the oldest in the United States, is next in population. Galveston, on Galveston Bay, and Houston, on the Buffalo Bayou, are the principal ports. Galveston exports more cotton than any city in the United States, except New Orleans.

LESSON XXVI. — Why were the States beyond the Alleghanies settled? How did the first settlers travel? How did towns grow up? Which are the Gulf States? What grows there? What is said of the cotton plants? Where is the cotton sent? What is said of Alabama? Where is Mobile? What is said of Mississippi? What plantations in Louisiana? What became of the sugar? What is said of New Orleans? What are levees? What nation once owned Louisiana? What is said of Texas?

LESSON XXVII.

THE INLAND STATES.

WE now have left, in the middle of the continent, the States of Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, North and South Dakota, and Nebraska. These States are in one of the most beautiful countries in the world: some parts are hilly, and covered with noble forests; others level, with waving corn and clover fields. The eastern valleys are shut in by mountains, rising in the distance, dim and blue; and toward the western prairies the land spreads out smooth and wide. Everywhere large rivers and hundreds of little streams water the land. Large cities are rapidly growing up; and all over the tract, where, not many years ago, the wild Indians roamed, are scattered towns and villages; while fields of grain, large pastures and orchards, cover their hunting grounds. This region is only partly cultivated, but already sends supplies of food all over the land, and to the crowded countries of the Old World. Besides the vast amounts of grain, a great many mules, horses, cows, sheep, and hogs are raised.

Tennessee and Kentucky, on the east side of the Mississippi, are much alike. They have no sea-coast, no fishing, no vessels, except the steamboats on the rivers, and no factories; but they have very fine, rich farm-land, besides plenty of coal and iron in the eastern part, where the mountains are. The people plant corn, wheat, tobacco and some cotton, and have fine mules and horses.

Nashville, on the Cumberland River, is the capital of Tennessee, and Memphis is quite a large city on the Mississippi. Frankfort is the capital of Kentucky; but Louisville, on the Ohio River, is the largest city, and has much trade; for the railroad from the east to Nashville and Memphis passes through it, making a great deal of travel; and steamboats bring sugar, molasses, cotton, etc., from the Southern States up the Ohio, and exchange them for dry-goods from the north.

There are many caves in the limestone of this part of the country; and in Kentucky there is one so large, that it is called the Mammoth Cave. Many persons visit it, and go in, several miles under the ground, sometimes crossing little streams in the cave. Torches are carried to give light, and the sparkling rocks which hang overhead glitter like icicles in the torchlight.

Ohio is one of the pleasantest and most thickly peopled of the inland States. There are a great many hogs, horses, and sheep; and this is the great State for pork. Hundreds of thousands of hogs are killed at Cincinnati, and the meat packed in barrels and boxes to send to different places. Candles and lard are also made; even the hair of the hogs is put to use, and of their bristles all sorts of brushes are made.

Cincinnati is the largest city. It is on the Ohio River, just in the line of travel from the South to the North and East, and has a large trade.

Columbus is the capital, and Cleveland is a large city on Lake Erie, from which steamers start for Buffalo in New York.

Michigan lies right in among the great, beautiful, blue lakes. It reaches quite far north, where it is too cold for

good farming land; but among the bare-looking rocks around Lake Superior are quantities of copper, which is very useful, and here are the richest copper mines in the world.

Detroit is a city through which much trade is carried on by the lakes and by railroads.

Other inland States are Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, east of the Mississippi; and, on the other side, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and North and South Dakota. Most of these have a great deal of beautiful prairie land, and raise quantities of grain. In several of them are large lead, coal, and iron mines. There is a strange mountain in Missouri, of nearly pure iron.

St. Louis on the Mississippi, and Chicago in Illinois, have grown very rapidly, and have become large and wealthy cities. Milwaukee on Lake Michigan, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Kansas City are flourishing cities.

Minnesota and Kansas have large farms, and their chief cities have much trade; for people are constantly leaving the crowded Eastern States to go west, where land is plenty and cheap.

You can find the capitals of all these States on your maps, and must remember that the capital of a State is not always its chief city, but is often selected because it can be easily reached from all parts of the State, though it may not have advantages for trade or manufactures.

LESSON XXVII. Give the names of the Inland States, and tell what is said of the country. What do other countries get from this region? Where are Tennessee and Kentucky? What do the people do in those States? What cities in Tennessee? What in Kentucky? What is said of caves? What is said of Ohio? What is said of Cincinnati? What other cities are mentioned? Where is Michigan?

What is found on the shores of Lake Superior? What is the chief city? What other States east of the Mississippi River? What States west? What of these States? Where are St. Louis and Chicago? What is said of Minnesota and Kansas? Where is the capital of a State usually found?

LESSON XXVIII.

OVER THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

FOR a long time, the wild country toward the Rocky Mountains was left to the Indians and a few hardy hunters who followed the deer and buffaloes; for it was rather dreary and unpromising. But by and by some of the hunters and straggling adventurers began to cross the Rocky Mountains, and travel over the broad country which lay beyond; for these mountains are quite a distance from the Pacific. These men brought back tales, from time to time, of the wide valleys and table-lands, the ridges of mountains, deep ravines, large rivers, and pleasant climate, on the other side of the mountains.

Occasionally some persons went to California or Oregon, and for a long time Spanish missionaries had been there teaching the Indians; but all at once it was found out that there was a great deal of gold in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and then there was a great rush to California. Men went from all parts of the world, English, French, and Germans, making the long voyage round Cape Horn, before there was a route across the Isthmus of Panama. Soon women and children followed, and nothing was heard of but gold and California. The people who found gold wanted better houses to live in, plenty to eat, and good clothes to wear, so there was soon much to do in building

houses, planting wheat and corn and vegetables, and making clothing. Streets were laid out, and churches built; and before one could believe it possible, a large city stood all alone on the western coast, and steamships were sailing regularly over the Pacific Ocean.

So many people went to live in California, that those on both sides of the mountains began to think they must find some way to have news from each other and to reach each other more quickly. Up to this time, if a man in New York wanted to go to California, he must sail to the Isthmus of Panama, go across by the railroad, and then take another steamer to sail along the coast to San Francisco. Heavy goods, which could not easily be moved, were carried round South America, and the voyage took many months. There was also an overland route by which people went sometimes; but it was dangerous because of the Indians, and so they travelled in large companies, somewhat in the manner of caravans. And often they suffered much from hunger and thirst. The horses died along the way, and sometimes the men too.

For two years there was a Pony Express. Brave men rode day and night as fast as a horse could go, and when one reached a station he tossed his bag to another who was all ready to start. So the letters went over the mountains; but there was danger from Indians, and danger from robbers, and it cost ten dollars to send such a letter as we can now send for two cents. After that, the telegraph wire was stretched across, and the ponies ran no more.

A railroad was needed, but how could a railroad go across with the great range of the Rocky Mountains in the way? And if these could be passed, the Sierra Ne-

vadas would be just as bad, or even, perhaps, a little worse. It would be a hard task, for the mountains were high and bleak. There were deep gorges, at the bottom of which were rushing streams. Dreary deserts, too, were in the way, where nothing would grow, and Indians, who lay in



RAILROAD IN THE SIERRAS.

wait and were ready to kill. Then the snows were deep in winter, and would slide down from the heights in great masses and bury all beneath.

But the men at the East thought we must have a road to California, however hard it might be to build ; and so at

last the railroad was begun at Omaha on the Missouri River, in Nebraska. The people in California wanted a road even more than those in the East. So they began to dig and to build at their end. But their country was new. They had not learned where to find the iron to make the rails and the shovels to dig with. So these things had to be carried in ships all the way round Cape Horn, and sometimes there were thirty ships on the sea at once, carrying things for the railroad.

The Californians crossed easily the pleasant valley of the Sacramento River and climbed the steep Sierra Nevada Mountains little by little, building strong bridges over the deep chasms; and where the snow might slide down and bury the cars, there they built over the track a strong snow-shed, so that the trains might run along in a safe house. And now the great snow-slides rush over the roofs and do no harm. For full forty miles they covered the track in this way. They dug through the hills, and when they could not well go round a mountain, they cut a tunnel through it—often all the way through hard rock.

All this took hard work and much time, and there were not many laborers in California then who were willing to dig on a railroad. But at this time the Chinese began to come across the Pacific Ocean in large numbers, from their crowded home in China, and they helped. As the men from the East and the men from the West came nearer together, bringing their iron track along, people felt as if they could not wait for the glad time, when the tracks should meet. The men who were at work felt so too, and tried to see which could lay the most track in a day. The Californians laid in one day ten miles of track, and won; but it took four thousand men to do it.

At last the two roads met in the north-west corner of Utah. There was great joy when the last rail was laid, and the telegraph told, in all the cities, the good news that there was a railroad quite across our country, from sea to sea.

There are now several other roads to the Pacific, with branches in different directions. Men are digging into



A PRAIRIE-DOG TOWN.

the mountains for ore and making wheat grow in the places we once called deserts, so that what was a short time ago a strange and lonely country, is now becoming pleasant with the homes of men.

Let us now take the train at Omaha on the Missouri River, and go over the mountains to the Pacific. Soon the land will begin to rise as we go up the valley of the Platte River. We shall cross wide prairies, and in some parts we shall see all over the plain the little prairie dogs, sitting on their hind legs at the doors of their burrows. And as we come near, with a jerk of the tail they will dive into their holes, but will soon come peeping out again to see what is the matter. They are fat little animals of a

grayish color and about sixteen inches long, and though they are not real dogs, but more like big rabbits, they make a little yelping cry like a puppy. A great number live together on the prairie and feed on roots and grass. Pretty as they are, they would not make good pets, for they bite one's fingers and are not trusty ; neither do they live long in our houses.

Over this high, dry plain at the foot of the mountains, roam great herds of cattle. They are branded with the mark of their owner, but they take care of themselves in the cold storms of winter, as well as in summer, and feed on the buffalo grass which grows in clumps everywhere. This grass is very rich and good even when it is quite dry. There are great flocks of sheep too, but these must have a shelter in the snow-storms.

I am afraid we shall not see any buffaloes, for there are not many left.

Now we come to high mountains, as we enter the south-east corner of Wyoming. On our left is the State of Colorado, with its high peaks covered with snow. This State has so many great mountains, deep gorges or cañons, pretty waterfalls, hot and cold springs, that travellers go there to see the fine sights, and people who are ill go to breathe the air and to get well again.

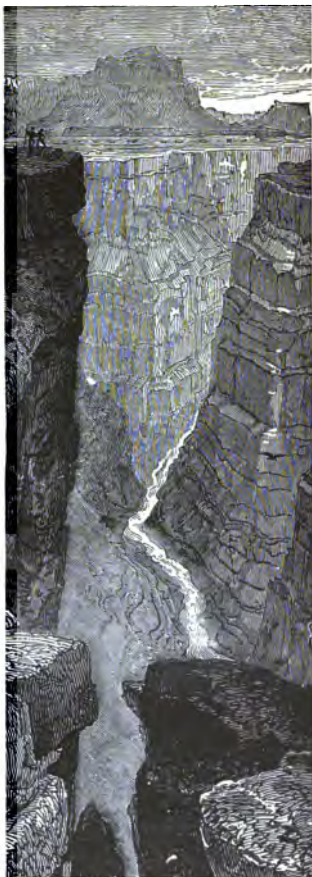
And we, too, will stop at Cheyenne and pass a few days in Colorado, looking at this great chain, from Long's Peak in the north to Pike's Peak in the south. We shall want to see the beautiful parks where great rocks stand in strange shapes ; we must go to the Garden of the Gods with its high red rocks, like sentinels at the gate ; and we must see the cataracts falling from point to point down in the deep cañons. In one of these the Arkansas River breaks

through the mountains between cliffs almost two thousand feet high.

And then we will go back to Cheyenne to the railroad and keep on our way westward. We soon reach the highest point over which we have to go, and we shall be disappointed to find it is not a peak at all, but looks like a wide stretch of pasture-land. But if you look carefully on the map, you will see that from the place where we are, in the southern part of Wyoming, rivers flow north and south and east and west. That tells us that this is a very high point, as rivers must always flow down hill.

And we, too, must go down a little, but among high mountains still. Here are great cliffs worn into strange shapes, like pulpits and cathedrals, and we shall be told that this is the finest scenery on the whole road.

Now we come to the handsome Salt Lake City, settled by Mormons, whose ways are quite different from ours. We shall want to bathe in the Lake, where the water is so salt that it buoys one up more even than the water of the sea, so



A COLORADO CANYON.

that you cannot well sink, even if you have not yet learned to swim.

Then we take the train again, and go west over a dreary plain, called the Great American Desert. Here only gray sage-brush grows, and you will not see a farm-house, an animal, a bush or a tree. Crossing Nevada, we come to more salt-lakes, from which no river runs out ; but



A GREAT TREE IN CALIFORNIA.

after passing over this dull country, we reach the grand range of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and we know we are in California ; for this range runs from north to south, through the eastern part of the state. When we go through the long snow-sheds we cannot see anything, but as soon as we come out, there will be great mountains all around. And now we come down to the Sacramento River, and crossing this fruitful and pleasant valley, we



YO SEMITE VALLEY.

are soon in San Francisco, at the end of our journey, and by the shore of the great Pacific Ocean.

We shall see that we may call Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico our Rocky Mountain States and Territories. All have fine mountain scenery, but in the north-west corner of Wyoming, and on the edge of Idaho and Montana, is a region

so wonderful that our government is going to keep it always open for the people to enjoy. It is called the Yellowstone National Park, and is more than sixty miles long and more than fifty miles wide. Boiling springs shoot up out of the earth with a roar, and send the hot water high up in the air. Around the Park stand the guarding mountains, their tops covered with snow, and waters fall through the narrow cañons in beautiful cascades.

Among the Rocky Mountain States and Territories,

Arizona and New Mexico are so far south that the weather is warm and the plants different. Cactuses with queer, ugly shapes and handsome flowers grow here. There are large Indian reservations, especially in New Mexico, and these Indians are peaceable and mean to do no harm.

As there are mines of gold and silver, lead and copper



CACTUS.

and iron among the mountains, many of the people will always be miners ; but there are also at the foot of the mountains rich farms and good pasture for cattle.

LESSON XXVIII. — What of the country near the Rocky Mountains? What lies beyond? Where was gold found? What happened then? What city was built? What is said of it? How did people at first go to California? How do they go now? What is said of the first railroad? Describe the journey on this road? What are the Rocky Mountain States and Territories? Which are farthest south?

LESSON XXIX.

THE STATES ON THE PACIFIC.

CALIFORNIA, Oregon and Washington are the States on the Pacific coast. California, which was first settled by those who went for its gold, is now much more valuable for the grains and fruits raised on its rich soil and in its pleasant climate. The wheat alone sent away from the State in one year is worth twice as much as the gold. In the south there are beautiful orange groves ; grapes of wonderful size grow on the hillsides for wine, and dried, make nice raisins. The olives are made into olive oil, as is done in Italy and Spain. Roses and geraniums bloom all the year in the open air. One thousand blossoms may sometimes be counted on a single geranium bush, and a fuchsia has been seen climbing all over a long piazza, reaching the second story of a house and covering even the roof with its handsome red flowers. Currants, cherries and pears, carrots, potatoes and pumpkins are of a size truly wonderful. The great wheat-fields are a beautiful sight when they are waving with yellow grain in July.

The crop is gathered by machines and sometimes the grain is reaped and threshed by one machine driven by twenty horses, hitched ten abreast.

The great trees of California are some of its most wonderful sights. One of them is so large that a carriage with four horses can drive easily through the hollow trunk, with plenty of room all around, and some are taller than very high church-spires. (See cut on page 252.)

Travellers seldom go to California without making a journey to the Yo Semite valley not far from San Francisco, and people often come long distances to see these grand mountains, deep valleys, and waterfalls. (See p. 253.)

Oregon and Washington have a very mild and beautiful climate, although they are as far north as the northern New England States. This is because a current of warm water from the south-west bathes their shores and brings warm air with it. Portland, in Oregon, is a fine city on a wide river which runs into the Columbia near its mouth. There is plenty of room for great ships and steamboats at its wharves. Toward the mouth of the Columbia are warehouses where great quantities of salmon are put up in cans to send away. These fish run up the rivers in the spring, and it is at this time that they are caught.

In Washington, Olympia is the capital. It is so easy to reach these towns now by railroad that people who do not like to live in the middle of the country, where the summers are very hot and the winters very cold, go to the Pacific shore to enjoy its pleasant air and fine scenery.

LESSON XXIX. — What are the Pacific States? What is said of California? What of its fruits? Of its grain? Of its great trees? Why do people go to the Yo Semite valley? What is the climate of Oregon and Washington? What is the chief town in each?

TALKS ON THE MAPS.

X.—UNITED STATES.

[The Map is at the beginning of the book.]

THIS map represents our own country. Children want to know most about their own country, so this map is made the largest in the book. Here are a great many states and you see they are separated from each other on the map by straight lines. It is not so in other countries where men have fought with their neighbors for the land and like to have rivers or mountains between them. The people in all these states are countrymen, and send a few men to one of the cities to make the laws and to rule. Put your finger on the city where these men meet. Which part of our country was first settled? Where did the first settlers come from? Where does the cotton grow? Which State has the best coal mines? Name the States on the Pacific coast. Why did people from the east go there at first? What is the largest city on that coast? From this city to what lands do steamers sail? A steamer crosses over to Japan in about three weeks. Which state looks the largest? And which the smallest? Do you think the largest state has the most people? Put your finger on the city that has the most people and which sends most vessels across the sea to other countries. Where does the wheat grow? How is it carried from the wheat fields to this great port? What is sent away from New Orleans? Find the dot that stands for that city.

APPENDIX.

Here is a list of books for children. They tell much that is interesting about far-off countries.

- Marco Polo : His travels and adventures. G. M. Towle. 1880.
Underfoot. L. D. Nichols.
We and the World. (Adventures.) J. W. Ewing. 1880.
Swiss Stories. J. Spyri.
When I was a Boy in China. Yan Phou Lee.
Cast Away in the Cold. (Arctic Adventures.)
Feats in the Fiord. (Norway.) Miss Martineau.
Uncle Titus. J. Spyri. (Switzerland.)
Heide. J. Spyri. "
Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates. (Holland.) M. E. Dodge. 1866.
In the Golden Shell. (Palermo.) L. Mazzini. 1872.
Little Lucy's Wonderful Globe. C. M. Yonge.
Little People of Asia. Olive Thorne Miller. 1883.
A Guernsey Lily. (Channel Islands.) Susan Coolidge. 1887.
Carl's First Days. (Story of a German boy who comes to America.)
1879.
Seven Little Sisters. Jane Andrews.
Each and All. Jane Andrews.
Three Greek Children. Alfred J. Church.
Ten Boys who lived on the Road from Long Ago to Now. Jane
Andrews.
Nelly's Silver Mine. (Colorado.) H. H. 1878.
Boys of other Countries. Bayard Taylor. 1876.
Mr. Bodley Abroad. H. E. Scudder. 1880.
The Bodley Grand-children and their Journey through Holland. H.
E. Scudder. 1882.
The Viking Bodleys. (An Excursion into Norway and Denmark.)
H. E. Scudder. 1885.
A Family Flight through Mexico.
Juan and Juanita. (A story of two Mexican Children.) Frances C.
Baylor. 1888.

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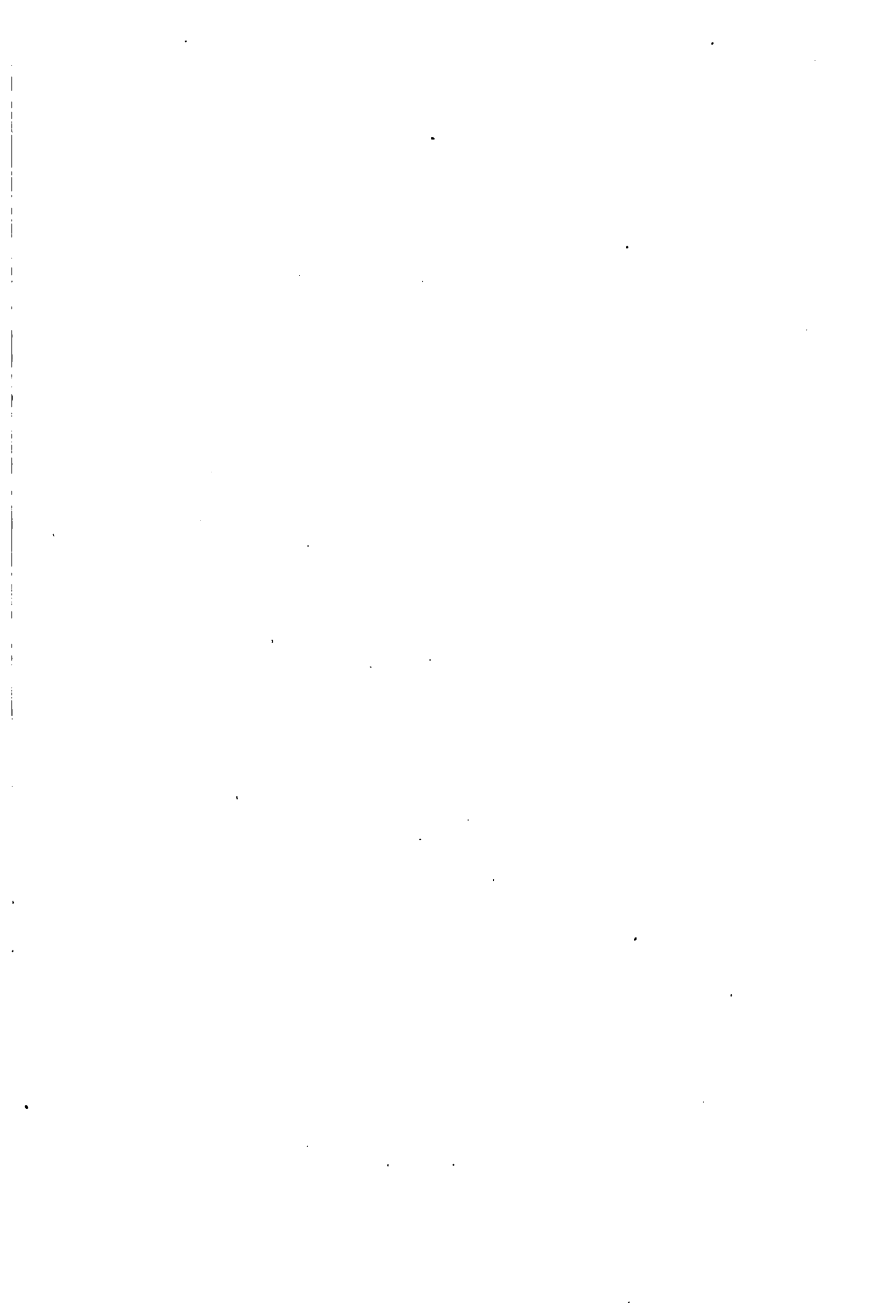
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